JOHN BULL

Vol. XIV. No. 359. SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 1913. ONE PENNY

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

020944

For meaning of this No. see Page iii. of Cover.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

LAST CHANCE!

FOR OUR

£1,000
FOOTBALL
PRIZE

£500
FOR A
"BULLET"

AND OTHER HUGE PRIZE INCREASES.

WEAK SIGHT CURED IN ONE MONTH.

SENT ON 10 DAY'S FREE TRIAL.

DISCARDED GLASSES IN ONE MONTH.

Miss N. COOKSON, 71, Ruskin Place, Frikleton, nr. Kirkham, writes, Nov. 18th, 1912: "After using your system I have given up wearing glasses altogether. I used it for two months, and have been without glasses a month to-day."

PERFECT VISION IN ONE MONTH.

Mr. GORDEN RAYNER, the noted Dentist of 37, Carlton Road, Worksop, Jan. 29th, 1913: "For the last five years I have worn glasses, but realizing how precious eyesight is, I tried your Treatment for *one month*. I have now left off glasses entirely, and I write as one possessing perfect vision where once it was imperfect."

CAN DO ALL WORK WITHOUT GLASSES.

Mr. WM. TURNER, South Hill Farm, Wellingborough, Northants, writes, Nov. 16th, 1912: "I now write to you thanking you for what you have done for my eyes. I am writing this without glasses, and my eyes are getting on lovely. I can do all my work without glasses now, and your Treatment has entirely cured them."

Some of the most wonderful cures known to Science are daily being accomplished by Dr. Percival's System, and many thousands of people have discarded spectacles entirely and regained perfect sight.

Even very aged sufferers have been completely cured after giving up all hope. In ordinary cases one month effects a complete cure, and spectacles can be entirely discarded.

So positive is Dr. Percival that his system will cure you that he will gladly send it on Trial, and if it fails to benefit your sight, it will not cost you a single penny. In no better way can Dr. Percival prove his complete confidence in his system. Test it free. If it does not improve your sight, you pay nothing.

There is no pain, no danger, and no continuous expense. It will not interfere in the slightest with your daily occupation, for Dr. Percival treats you in your own home.

No matter how long you have suffered, no matter what other means you have tried, write to Dr. Percival now, and satisfy yourself first that his system will do all that he claims. After you have tried it, if you really believe your sight is not improved, Dr. Percival will accept your decision without the slightest question and bear the loss himself.

Send your name and address together with 2d. (abroad 4 foreign) stamps to Dr. G. C. Percival (Dept. 9), 43-45, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.

DISCARDED GLASSES ENTIRELY.

Miss B. W. GALLATLY, 41, Dallfield Terrace, Dundee, N.B., writes, Jan. 2nd, 1913: "The Treatment is giving great satisfaction. I never have headaches now, which is something new, as before I never was rid of them. I have stopped wearing glasses entirely."

SPECTACLES DISCARDED IN THREE WEEKS.

Mr. H. O. WEBBER, of 261, Foxhall Road, Ipswich, writes, Sept. 30th, 1912: "I am very glad to say that after three weeks' use, following your instructions, I dispensed with glasses, which I wore for three years, and my eyes are much better. I consider the Treatment a very valuable invention."

CURED IN ONE MONTH.

Mr. WM. SIMPSON, 33, Dyehouse Fold, Apperley Bridge, Bradford, Oct. 18th, 1912: "I feel it my duty to tell you of the great benefit I received by the use of your Treatment. It is a month ago I began using it for weak sight, and now the defect has left me altogether."

SEE PAGE 571.

FOOTBALL COMPETITION. NO. 5.

SEE PAGE 571.

"JOHN BULL" Entrance Form.

Matches Played Saturday, April 26th.

Cross out—in ink—what you think will be the losing club. For a draw do not cross out either club.

Bolton W.	**v. Sunderland**
Bradford City	**v. Tottenham H.**
Chelsea	**v. Notts County**
Everton	**v. Sheffield Wednesday**
Newcastle Un.	**v. Aston Villa**
Oldham Athletic	**v. Manchester Un.**
W. Bromwich	**v. Blackburn R.**
Bristol City	**v. Bury**
Clapton Orient	**v. Bradford**
Glossop	**v. Wolverhampton W.**
Hull City	**v. Leicester Fosse**
Lincoln	**v. Barnsley**
Notts Forest	**v. Fulham**
Southampton	**v. Gillingham**
Plymouth A.	**v. Northampton**
Crystal Palace	**v. Q. P. Rangers**
Merthyr	**v. Brentford**
Watford	**v. Millwall**
Brighton	**v. Swindon**
Reading	**v. Norwich City**

I enter JOHN BULL Football Competition in accordance with the rules announced on this page and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signed .....

Address .....

.....

Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

RULES

WHICH SHOULD BE READ CAREFULLY.

1. On the Entrance Form attached cross out in ink, by running a pen through the names, the teams you think will lose. If you predict a DRAW do not cross out either team.

2. Having done this, write in ink (typewriting or pencilling will not do) your name and address in the space provided, cut out the Entrance Form, and address it to **"JOHN BULL," 25 Floral Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.**, mark envelope, in top left-hand corner, **Football Competition No. 5**, so as to reach us not later than Friday, April 25th, but please send early to facilitate the work of examination.

3. The £1,000 cash Prize will be awarded to the competitor whose Entry Form contains the correct results, as published in the "Sporting Life," of all the matches given, played to a finish on April 26th. In the event of no coupon being received giving the whole of the correct results, a cash prize of £250 will be awarded to the competitor whose coupon shows the most correct forecasts short of the full number. Should a lady not win or share either the £1,000 or the £250, £50 in cash will be awarded to the lady whose coupon gives more correct forecasts than that of any other lady competitor.

4. No responsibility will be accepted by the Editor for the loss or non-delivery of any effort, and no correspondence will be entered into, neither will interviews be granted. But the utmost care will be taken of all coupons received. Individual competitors may send in as many entries as they wish, and any number of entries may be enclosed in the same envelope. Friends may send their entries together in one envelope.

5. The Editor's published decision on all matters relating to this competition is final and legally binding, and competitors may enter only on this understanding.

6. Any effort on which any alteration of any description has been made will be disqualified. Entrance Forms must be cut, not torn out.

7. In the event of a tie or ties in this competition the £1,000 Prize and the Contingent Prize of £250, as well as the special £50 prize for ladies only, will be equally divided.

8. No coupon bearing a Scottish address can be accepted.

THE CLOSING DATE IS FRIDAY, APRIL 25th.

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. XIV. No. 359. Week ending Saturday, April 19th, 1913. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, according to whether they relate to Editorial or Publishing matters. All **FINANCIAL, INSURANCE** *and* **SPORTING** *enquiries should be addressed to the* **CITY OFFICES, 52, NEW BROAD STREET, E.C.** *All other communications should be addressed to* **93, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.**

£10 REWARD.

Wanted, the Copy of **"John Bull"** for **APRIL 12th, 1913,** bearing on its Cover the Number **075,308.**
Apply **THE MANAGER, "JOHN BULL,"**
93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

The John Bull League.

HULL AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

THE PRESIDENT,
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY,
will address
A PUBLIC MEETING
in the
CITY HALL, HULL,
on
FRIDAY, 18th APRIL.
(See "League Notes" for further particulars.)

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

The "John Bull" Derby Sweep.

So we are not "rogues and vagabonds," after all! Mr. Muskett's shots went all astray. The magistrate at Bow Street, Mr. Curtis Bennett—most courtly and kindly of Cadis!—is satisfied that in calling attention to the JOHN BULL Derby Sweepstake, now being run from Geneva, we are "acting in the interests of the public." Thank you, Mr. Muskett—your health! Once more, however, let us say that we cannot receive applications for tickets, and that *all* communications must be addressed to Patrick O'Brien, Geneva, Switzerland.

"If You See It——"

Whenever the German war-cloud bursts, our authorities will at any rate be unable to plead that they have been taken unawares. Germany has conducted her military and naval preparations with a cynical flamboyance which should have made her designs apparent to the meanest intelligence. At the risk of "damnable iteration," we once more assert that the German Empire is rapidly mustering its mighty resources for a death struggle with Great Britain. Her military preparations are intended to secure her from attack by land while she is challenging our supremacy at sea.

The Pope.

The news from the Vatican will not take our readers by surprise. In our issue of March 22nd, under the heading of "The Passing of the Pope," we mentioned that His Holiness was *in extremis*, and that the truth about his illness was being carefully withheld from the public—whereupon the whole of the general Press broke out into a chorus of protest against "the exaggerated reports about the health of the Pope," which, we were assured, "gave no cause for anxiety"!

A Simple Solution.

We learn that sixty or seventy Liberal M.P.s recently met at the House of Commons "to consider how they could arrange matters between themselves to avoid a defeat if Unionists suddenly challenged a division." There is a simple solution which may, or may not, have occurred to the honourable gentlemen. If they will only attend to their duties, the dangers of defeat will be averted. If they don't, the wicked Tories will "snap," and—bang will go four hundred a year!

The "Other Side."

Perhaps it was due to the fact that we travelled in the same train as Lord Robert Cecil when he was on his way to Darlington—and we to Newcastle—that in his speech he had a go at the Party system. But he hasn't got it quite right yet. He believed, he said, that the country was "rather tired of Party politics, and that they would welcome *the party* which came before them, and said its ideal was to proceed with practical measures, and to have as little dispute *with the other side* as possible." A bit mixed—but he is coming round.

An Object Lesson.

Mr. McKenna has been giving us a lesson in the beauties of Parliamentary procedure. Here is his description of the manner in which the time of the House of Commons is fooled away under existing rules:—"With their eye on the clock gentlemen talk their half-hour, explaining to a weary house what an admirable Bill it is, and how disappointed they will be if it should not become law, and when their half-hour is up the Bill is dead." Suppose *we* had said that.

"Straight" Shots.

Once again we announce a big increase in our Bullets Competition—the most fascinating, and, at the same time, educational recreation ever devised. Happily, not even the ingenuity of Inspector Newman could find a contravention of the Lottery Act in it. Otherwise, it would be elevating to find the Police Solicitor, Mr. Muskett, complaining of our Bullets!

Look Out—

For a big political surprise, and do not forget that "If you see it——," etc.!

Our Great New Summer Competition. See next week's issue.

The Sick and the State.

Many of the hospitals have suffered severe financial loss through the operation of the Insurance Act. In some instances subscriptions have fallen off to an alarming extent. At Nottingham, the recent Hospital Saturday collections totalled £1,600 less than in the previous year, a fact which prompted Sir J. D. Rees to question the Treasury upon the matter. In reply, Mr. Wedgwood Benn foreshadowed the possibility of a State subsidy in necessitous cases. Any such proposal would, of course, involve a measure of Government control, and would doubtless pave the way for the assumption by the State of complete responsibility for the care of the sick and infirm. Many people regard this as a highly desirable consummation, and there are undoubtedly a great many excellent arguments for the public management of hospitals and kindred institutions. Already the country is dotted with Poor-law infirmaries, all of which are subject to State inspection and control, and in the opinion of many competent judges the management of these institutions is superior to that of hospitals supported by voluntary funds. At present there is a lamentable lack of co-ordination between the various agencies for the relief of suffering. There can be little doubt that the grouping of all hospitals under an efficient central authority would mark an immense advance in the effective treatment of disease, while the advantages of public inspection will be obvious to all who have had painful experience of the shortcomings of existing institutions.

Pease—and Pluralists.

The methods of Party government are past understanding. Mr. J. A. Pease, who ought to be absorbed in the task of drafting his much-heralded Education measure, has been chosen to pilot the Plural Voting Bill through the House of Commons. The measure, whilst, of course, highly contentious, is simplicity itself, and we fail to see any reason why the Board of Education should be temporarily deprived of its head. Only recently we had the Postmaster-General stumping the country on Home Rule, while the Chief Secretary for Ireland scarce opened his mouth on the subject; and to-day we find the Lord Chancellor dividing his attention between matters military and educational, neither of which is within his official purview. The public services will never be really efficient till each Minister sticks to his job.

Req, In Pace.

Probably the most suitable tribute we can pay to the memory of Mr. Marsham, the late magistrate at Bow Street Police Court, is that, so far as we can remember, we have not had any cause to call in question the justice or propriety of any decision he has given during the whole time JOHN BULL has been in existence. He was a man of balanced mind and independent judgment, and when he had to punish, one always felt he was punishing in the right measure and the right way. Even at eighty years of age his mental faculties were undimmed, and London loses in him a magistrate of splendid capacity and hardly rivalled experience.

A Halting Measure.

The Radicals seem to regard the One Man One Vote Bill as the last word in electoral equity. In point of fact, it leaves the principal franchise anomalies untouched. Under existing conditions, only a small proportion of adult males can look forward with any degree of certainty to admission to citizen rights. In these circumstances, the talk of "trusting the people" is cant of the most egregious order. The farcical absurdities of existing "registration" law will receive short shrift at the hands of a Business Government.

Hustlers and Halters.

There are two Marconi Committees. There is the body which sits in Committee Room 12, and is a mere cog in the Party machine; and there is a smaller body of experts appointed to consider the rival merits of various wireless systems, with a view to their practical adaptation to commercial needs. After all, this is the really important matter, and it is good to know that the smaller Committee have put in a great deal of excellent work, and will soon be ready with their Report, which will be presented to the larger Committee "for consideration." We trust there will now be no avoidable delay. There is not a man on Sir Albert Spicer's Committee who is really competent to judge the value of an expert's opinion, and it will be well if formalities are dispensed with in order that the conclusions of the Committee of Experts may be placed forthwith at the disposal of the Government.

Another Committee.

Lord Mersey's Committee on the Jury system has held its last sitting, and its Report is in course of preparation. We understand there will be Majority and Minority Reports, and that both will contain interesting suggestions. The Majority Report, it is said, will recommend the payment of jurors. This proposal, backed by the support of the Chairman, will undoubtedly find considerable favour among the class from which jurors are mainly drawn, and there is much to be said for it on grounds of fairness and public policy. The Minority are to recommend the abolition of the "Special Jury" and of the property qualification. We are not prepared to give unqualified support to such a drastic and far-reaching proposal. There are many cases involving financial or technical questions, in which it is desirable that jurymen should possess superior training and education, and there can be no doubt that the right to demand "special" juries in special cases is one which is generally valued by litigants.

"Blue Books and Biscuits."

Writing from the London Stock Exchange, one of its most popular members, Mr. Harry Weber, says:—

> I notice that my friend and old schoolfellow, Sidney Webb, is starting a paper called the *New Statesman*, the reason given being that the Party system is not only unsatisfactory, but played out. He says, "the fact is people are sick of the old Party shibboleths, and they want to know definitely and clearly how England is to get out of her present hole," but that the paper will be an interesting one and not all "Blue-books and Biscuits." I suppose there are few men whose philosophy of life would differ more than your own and Mr. Webb's, but, as you said some time ago in your paper, "they are all coming round to our view."

Of course, the reference to Biscuits has no relation to our own celebrated brand, but to the kind of pabulum affected by the ascetic Fabians.

Snacks for Starving Emigrants.

Speaking of Biscuits, the following cutting from the Vancouver *Sun* will give our readers an idea of the conditions that prevail in Western Canada:—"In order to relieve many families in the city and outlying municipalities, who are at present suffering if not actual starvation, at least great hardships owing to the severe weather, the National Biscuit and Confection Co., First Avenue, Fairview, have decided to distribute many cases of plain family biscuits. This distribution will take place to-morrow morning between the hours of nine and eleven. Applicants will be required to produce a reference from a clergyman, a magistrate or any city government official." By the way, what *are* "family" biscuits?

A Magnificent Piano and 200 other Prizes offered to "Mary Bull" readers. Out on Friday.

Porter and Irish.

The Chairman and members of the Letterkenny Board of Guardians spent a precious lot of time in endeavouring to accommodate themselves to the workhouse porter, reported by the master as having been on the drink for a fortnight. "I am told you are making yourself very disagreeable in the House," the Chairman informed him. "You didn't threaten to use a knife on anyone, did you?". "I don't remember," said the porter. "Do you go into quarters where you should not be?" demanded the Chairman. "You were in the class-room?" "I suppose I was," said the porter. "Will you take the pledge?" crooned the Chairman. "No," responded the porter, "because I broke it two or three times before; when anything crops up to annoy me I fly to drink." It was then suggested that he should go home for a month and return again, "several of the members trying to reason with the porter, who, working himself into a rage, said 'God Almighty could not turn me.'" That being the case, it was no use their making further prayer to him, and they accepted the unabstemious one's resignation. It is not improbable, however, that they will reconsider their decision at the next meeting, and appoint a deputation to grovel before him with a view to inducing him to return to the post.

Callous Clergy.

It is not long since the Vicar of Runcorn, the Rev. H. N. Perrin, refused to allow the body of a young churchman and member of Holy Trinity choir to be taken into St. Michael's Church, which adjoins the cemetery, on the grounds that the deceased had not attended Holy Communion three times within the year. And now we have the Rev. C. C. Wakefield, Rector of Pulham St. Mary, Norfolk, refusing both to permit the body of a dead villager to be taken into the church and to have the bell tolled, because the deceased had been separated from her husband for several years. If the public have not ordinary rights of access to the parish church when they are dead as well as when they are living, the sooner the Church of England is disestablished the better. We shall then know how we stand, and grief-stricken relatives will not in future be pained by such cruel refusals as those we have described.

Maniacs and Margarine.

The authorities of the Yorkshire Asylums are apparently consumed with a zeal for economy, and, like a good many other public bodies, they believe in beginning at the bottom. It is proposed to substitute margarine for butter in the dietary of servants and patients, and it is said that a considerable saving will thus be effected. It is possible that the patients may be oblivious of the quality of their diet, but the servants are already taking active steps to resist the innovation, and a "hunger" strike is freely suggested as an appropriate preliminary demonstration. We sympathise with the attendants' attitude, and should like to see a statement of the accounts of these institutions and of the dietary of the superior officials. Economy is an excellent thing—but why not, for a change, begin at the top?

"Broke" in a Bank.

A bank clerk asks us what we think of *his* case—employed in a country bank which has paid a dividend of 20 per cent. for more than 20 years: "First year's pay £20, rising by tens to £40 and then by twenties to £80, with deductions as in the other case; no time allowed for lunch at mid-day, and working under a sub-manager who is an absolute pig in manners and behaviour." What we think is that as soon as he can improve himself he should leave the piggery.

Bunkum and Bees.

Salop beekeepers appear to have cause for chagrin that the Chairman of the Shropshire Horticultural Society should lend his support to the Shropshire Beekeepers' Association under the mistaken impression that he is thereby encouraging beekeeping among the cottagers. The Committee of the Shropshire Beekeepers' Association have all the appearance of a clique running the concern, not for cottage beekeepers, but for those whose interests are opposed to the encouragement of beekeeping by cottagers. The Horticultural Society donate £30 a year to them, and of this amount the Committee chuck about £3 among the cottagers in prizes. What is significant is that of 350 cottage beekeepers in the county the S.B.A. has netted only 20 of them, and that members of the Committee take 90 per cent. of the prizes. From what we can gather, not the slightest doubt is expressed that if the Chairman of the Shropshire Horticultural Society gave his donation in prizes, and held the Show under his own able organisation, there would be a great influx of visitors and it would return to its former honoured position as the finest, as it is now one of the poorest, Shows in the United Kingdom.

A Word with the Waiter.

We have every sympathy with organised labour, but Trades-unionism may be overdone. Certain classes of workers are under an obligation to the public, whose sympathy they alienate the moment they forget the fact. For aught we know, our hotel and restaurant waiters may have many grievances, but when, at a moment's notice, they "down tools"—leaving diners and suppers in the lurch—well, their grievances cease to interest us. If railwaymen were to adopt such a course, nobody would extend to them a helping hand. Let our good friends, the gentlemen of the serviette, take the hint.

Simpson's Revisited.

Talking of waiters reminds us that the other day, after an absence of two or three years, we revisited Simpson's, in the Strand—to which establishment, it may be remembered, we called attention at the time. We are pleased to record many improvements. Simpson's now really *is* English, and there are only two improvements we can suggest. Why are the waiters dressed in smocks, with a kind of undertaker's escutcheon on their breasts, and why, oh! why, is there no Yorkshire pudding?—which is the best part of the beef

East Sheen Death Trap.

It has been proved over and over again that an Education Authority is not necessarily an authority on education. Another illustration of the proposition is the crazy resolution to build an elementary Council school close to Hogger's Corner in Upper Richmond Road, East Sheen. It is like building a children's school at the corner of Ludgate Hill. To get there the children will have to cross a road on which the heavy traffic of motor cars, motor 'buses, and vehicles of all kinds is rapidly increasing, for it is the main road out of London to most of the racecourses and the principal "Rugger" football grounds. The corner is a death-trap, and it will be the sort of blunder which is worse than a crime if the building in such a place is proceeded with.

Fiat Justicia, Etcetera.

Certain aspects of a case before him the other day reminded the Greenwich Magistrate, Mr. Symmons, of one in the law books in which the plaintiff, the defendant and the solicitor were hanged, and the counsel was ordered to pay all the costs. We should be glad of the reference.

Huge Increase in "Bullets" Prizes this week!

Cornish Justice.

The magistrates who preside over the Camborne Juvenile Court have a queer sense of justice. Not long ago, a lad of 15 was brought before them, charged with stealing his mother's purse, containing £5 8s. 7d., from beneath her pillow. He took a trip to Plymouth, spent the cash on food and lodging and a number of trumpery articles, and then returned, like the prodigal son, to his father's house in Camborne. It might reasonably be expected that the pair of Shallows (by name R. A. Thomas and W. Vivian) before whom the young rapscallion was haled would have meted out to him some moderate measure of fitting punishment, such as a few strokes of the birch judiciously applied in the right quarter. Instead of which, the delinquent was bound over " to be of good behaviour," placed under a probation officer, and fined 10s., *which his parents had to pay!* This incident should be a warning to Camborne parents to chastise their unruly offspring in the good old-fashioned way. Recourse to the Juvenile Court apparently will cost them more.

Shops Act Die-hard.

Pedestrians in Tottenham Court Road have been recently attracted to the window of a jeweller who was fined for ignoring the requirements of the Shops Act. He posted up an announcement that among other things he is not aware of any Act to prevent people gazing on his stock or compelling him to close his front door, and this being so " a selection can be made and the purchase consummated on the following day. I for one intend to die a hard death. As a last resort you will probably see me a vendor of Marconi shares or promoting a Welsh gold mine. Even then goods will be highly finished and prices right." We fear the front-door trick will not save his skin, but it may be worth trying to a man who does not mind opening his purse for a test case.

Trim Bachelors.

What looks like a horrible row is in shape at Trim, in Ireland, where the truly Rural Council gave notice to the bachelor inhabitants of their labourers' cottages that if they did not marry they must clear out. Though the cottages and the men have been well advertised and beautifully illustrated in the papers, and likewise the girls who are alleged to be willing to marry, the men will neither marry nor depart; and " there's the rub," as Hamlet says. All that remains for the Council is to eject them, and this they threaten to do; which is an affront to natural justice. In this country they won't let you have a house if you are a manufacturer of babies, and in Ireland, it appears, they won't let you remain in a house if you don't enter the business. To complete the vicious circle, we expect to arise one of these mornings to find that nobody can have a house in Scotland unless he takes his oath to live on haggis, or a domicile in Wales unless he swears to eat the leek.

Who Is E. Joyce?

E. Joyce, of Argyle Chambers, Charing Cross Road, advertises in the *Daily Telegraph* a situation at £150 a year, and to those who reply he sends out a duplicated circular letter saying he is not the employer, but knows of a vacancy to suit. The applicant has nothing to sell, he explains; all he has to do is to call on tradesmen and ask for a certain article which they haven't got, in order to create a demand. His charge for obtaining this light and pleasant job is 2½ per cent. on the first year's salary, to be paid at the end of the year. "Please," he concludes " . . . enclose a stamped addressed envelope for reply *and four penny stamps to cover cost of postage, etc.*" This is about as mean a trick as we have come across for some time.

Shaking the Chestnut Tree.

Apparently the Canadian and the American papers are fathering on Mr. Harry Lauder all the stories of thrift that ever came out of bonnie Scotland. " Lauder," says one of them, " declares that America is a hard place to cultivate thrift. 'Sometimes I am almost tempted to buy a drink,' he said recently. While in Gotham, the Scotch comedian was walking up Fifth Avenue with his wife. As they reached the Forty-sixth Street corner, Mrs. Lauder stopped to look at a fine display of flowers in the windows of a famous florist. 'My, but don't they look sweet!' she exclaimed. 'That they do,' replied her husband; ' let's stand by the door awhile and smell them.' " After this we are compelled to inform our Canadian and U.S. contemporaries that when two Scots visiting London saw a pretty girl in a draper's shop and one of them announced his intention to buy a ha'porth of pins in order to get a nearer view of her, the one who remarked " Hoots, mon, there's nae occasion tae waste siller; let's gang in an' spear if she can gie us twa saxpences for a shillin'!" was not Mr. Lauder.

Watch and Prey.

This is what we are informed has happened at Widnes. A Salvation Army captain, popular in the town, was presented by his comrades and others with a gold watch on his transference to another sphere of labour. Hearing this, Headquarters demanded that the watch should be sent there, " as the servants of the Lord are not allowed to accept such presents for Him." This has always been the rule in the S.A., we believe. Certainly it is not the first gold watch Headquarters have annexed. They appropriated one given to Gipsy Smith at Hull in similar circumstances, and he departed and started missioning—at least, that was the story afoot—on his own account rather than give it up. They must have a whole collection of other people's gold watches up in Queen Victoria Street—unless they have been sold or pawned.

Insurance Muddlers Again.

On behalf of his daughter, a Dulwich gentleman several times wrote to the Delaware Road Post Office, Maida Vale, for particulars as to how the Insurance Act was worked through the Post Office. Eventually the girl received a green ticket informing her that her insurance number is C.W. 1567, and instructing her to write it on her contribution card. The same evening arrived a letter informing her that her insurance number is D.D.C. 49979, and instructing her to write *that* on her card. We are asked to advise the girl what to do in the circumstances. She had better await events. Tomorrow morning or the morning after she will probably receive another official communication informing her that if she multiplies 49979 by 1567, adds 4d. to it and subtracts 9d. from the lot, she will find her correct number as finally settled—until some other fool alters it.

Prince Albert on Party.

" He was amazingly well endowed with commonsense, a faculty inimical perhaps to true greatness. He saw much merit in the theory of ministerial responsibility, but as everyone remembers he despised our Party system, and once publicly observed that in this country representative institutions were on their trial. He, however, perceived the absurdity of our laws as well as of our constitution, but never dared say so. Given a free hand, *he might have realised the modern ideal of a business government.* Whatever influence the Crown exercised in England from the day of his coming to the day of his death, must fairly be credited to him."—From " The Coburgs: The Story of a Rise in a Great Royal House," by Edmund B. D'Auvergne.

Our Final Football Fortune. Last Chance this week.

A Strange Proceeding.

Two lads were recently arraigned at the Old Bailey on a charge of manslaughter. They pleaded "not guilty," whereupon counsel for the prosecution stated that he did not propose to call any evidence in support of the charge, and the prisoners were accordingly released. Surely, if there was no evidence to support the charge, it should never have been preferred.

Recruits for the League.

A Society "to inaugurate a national movement for saving time" has recently come into being, and its members have started well by dubbing themselves "Optimists." Here are one or two of the time-wasting nuisances which the new body will try to abolish:—"Irrelevance at public meetings; inefficient railway service; obsolete and childish rules in Parliament." We must invite these "Optimists" to affiliate with the League.

RHYMES OF THE TIMES.

RULE, BRITANNIA!

"Britons never shall be slaves!"
Thus the patriotic song;
Still it wakes in craven knaves
Love of freedom, hate of wrong.
When the stirring strains arise
In some crowded music-hall,
Boldly flash a thousand eyes
Down from gallery to stall!

If that spirit yet survives
In the Briton of to-day,
Strange that it alone revives
Where the scene is bright and gay!
When the music-hall is dim,
When the orchestra is dumb,
Is the spirit STILL *in him*
That exulted with the drum?

No! When day comes, it is dead!
Else, would he endure the band
Riveted around his head
By the bureaucratic hand?
Marked and catalogued like sheep,
Classed and numbered like a thing,
Would he labour, eat, and sleep,
Wearing still his servile ring?

Would he suffer to be known
By a number on a card—
He, whose forebears have o'erthrown
Tyrants in an age more hard!
Would he suffer those who rule
By HIS *sweat and toil to rise,*
Using him as 'twere a tool
To secure some "party" prize?

Would he suffer Britain's fame
To be trodden in the dust?
Britain! Whose once glorious name
Wakened fear, engendered trust!
Would he suffer parleying
With the Teuton at the gate?
Or would he defiance fling,
Spurning fear and scorning fate?

"Britons never shall be slaves!"
Sing those stirring words no more;
Britain's FREE *are in their graves,*
Or have sought some distant shore!
Here at home the craven dwell,
Each a fancied democrat—
Britain's ancient freedom fell
When uprose the Bureaucrat!

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

["*Taking the Biscuit*" *has become a classic phrase, expressive of a satirical reward or recognition. In this column we present, in all good humour, the token to such of our contemporaries and others as may have distinguished themselves by some unconventional utterance or act.*]

For stating in his "Parish Magazine," apropos of the approaching marriage of the Head Mistress of the Royal Free Girls' School, Windsor, that: "Miss Bale has been with us for four years, and during that time has left a MARK *upon the school and the* GIRLS *who came under her influence that will not soon be forgotten,"*

THE VICAR OF WINDSOR
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that: "We are sorry to announce the illness of Mr. Paxton, whose many friends will no doubt be surprised to hear of his CONFINEMENT,"

THE NORTH END WEEKLY (Montreal)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For reporting the petitioner in a recent divorce case as stating that her husband "would go out EARLY *in the morning to his business and did not return till* LATE THE FOLLOWING MORNING. SOMETIMES *he stayed out all night,"*

THE PEOPLE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in "The Teachers' Aid" that: "Some housewives find the peeling of the onion very distressing. If HELD UNDER THE COLD WATER TAP *during the operation, the* EYES *are prevented from watering,"*

"Q"
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising in the "Yorkshire Telegraph and Star": "215.—BLACK SUIT; *frock coat, silk lined and faced,* 082532, *by M. J. Russel, London,* BEAUTIFULLY FINISHED MOVEMENT, STEEL BALANCE, FULLY JEWELLED; WARRANTED 10 YEAR CASES,"

"TURNERS" (138, Westbar, Sheffield)
TAKE THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its report of the recent attempt to destroy Dudley Castle that: "About the time of the explosion a motor containing several WOMEN WITHOUT LIGHTS *was seen travelling through Tipton,"*

THE BIRMINGHAM DAILY MAIL
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For equivocally stating in his "Parish Magazine" that since 1899 *"many of the congregation who knew him (the late Vicar) have left us, some to join him in* PARADISE, *we hope and believe, and many have been called* ELSEWHERE,"

THE REV. J. W. S. J. DANBURY
(Vicar of St. Michael's, Southampton)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its report of the Grand National Steeplechase that: "The attendance, IF NOT A RECORD, *has probably* NEVER BEEN EQUALLED,"

THE EVENING EXPRESS (Liverpool)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that an intending passenger "had failed to observe that the Edinburgh train she desired had entered and LEFT *the station. She ran out and* TRIED TO ENTER A CARRIAGE,"

THE EVENING DISPATCH (Edinburgh)
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

HALF-A-CROWN FOR EVERY "BISCUIT" PUBLISHED.

*We give 2s. 6d. to the sender of every "Biscuit" published. Should the same item be forwarded by several competitors, preference will be given to the one whose letter is first opened. In forwarding newspaper cuttings, sufficient must be sent to identify the name of the paper and date of issue. Envelopes must be marked "*BISCUIT*" and addressed to "The Biscuit Editor."*

Increased Again! £500 for the best "Bullet" this week.

ARE WE READY?

A FEW THOUGHTS ON THE NATIONAL AND IMPERIAL SITUATION.

By THE EDITOR.

Man is a creature of reason and instinct—the latter quality linking him (together with certain other characteristics) to the animal world, from which—according to how you regard it—he has either ascended or come down. But there can be no question that instinct is a much less erring guide than reason—at any rate, in the present stage of human evolution. And instinct tells us that something big is in the air—that this twentieth century is destined to witness a great upheaval. There will be war between Germany and Britain—*that* is certain; there will be trouble with our grown-up Colonies—that, too, is certain; there will be a mighty conflict between East and West, to decide the Yellow Man's place in the world; and in nearly every country on the earth there will be a fresh trial of strength between Capital and Labour. That is a moderate statement of the position of affairs—and I have been wondering, lately, how *we* (never mind other nations) are prepared and are preparing for the struggle. Let us have a look round.

Are We Ready?

That is the question! Are we *quite* sure that if Germany threw off her mask of friendship to-morrow, and said, "We want outlets for our growing population; we want markets for our expanding trade; *we want England and her colonies*"—are we *quite* sure, I say, that we could effectively reply—"To Hell with your population and your trade, and to the bottom of the sea with your ships"? Are we *quite* sure? *I* am not. And our Colonies? Is Canada, for instance, truly devoted to her "mother," and desirous of never breaking away from "home"? Does she *really* want to give us battleships? Will she never follow the example of her American stepbrother, or perhaps even join forces with him? And those yellow men in Japan and China—to what ultimate end are they gradually absorbing Western ideas and customs? And, with the growth of what is comically called Education, will the teeming army of manual workers long remain acquiescent in their place in the shade? Again I ask, are we quite ready? Are our forces of War—still the ultimate arbiter of all things between "civilised" nations!—and our forces of Order and Government, in a state of full efficiency and completeness?

The Navy.

How is this? There was a time when such a phrase as "naval rivalry" was unknown to British statesmanship. Britannia ruled the waves. *Now* we find our Navy Minister making overtures to a Continental Power for a "twelve months' shipbuilding holiday"—to be rejected with scorn and contempt! We find ourselves talking about a "two-Power standard," about "16 to 10," and all sorts of other nonsense; and we have the spectacle of officers of high rank plotting and scheming against each other, Sea "Lords" being superseded and retired in quick succession—and, in the end, the supreme control of our sea forces placed in the hands of a naturalised German prince! And behind it all, a group of shrieking cranks in Parliament, yapping about Peace and Goodwill! It is not a nice picture, is it?

The Army.

What shall we say of this? The Territorials going to the dogs, the Regulars being recruited from all the failures and riff-raff of the community, new "schemes" formulated every year, men under-paid and discontented—and officers wearing corsets and monocles! Supposing—only "supposing"—there were a sudden rising in India or Africa—or India *and* Africa—fomented by the emissaries of a foreign foe, and fanned into flame by the vapourings of political knaves, or fools, of the Keir Hardie type—"where would our army be then, poor thing?" Have you forgotten the Boer War? And that was child's play! No, I am not satisfied that the Army is "ready."

The Forces of Government.

But if our fighting forces be defective, what of the civil power? Once or twice recently we have had just a weak foretaste of its helplessness. There were the Dock and Railway strikes—and there are the Suffragettes! All these things have revealed the utter impotency of the Executive. Nobody has known what to do—and there has been nobody to do it. We have called in the Board of Trade—to find there *is* no Board! We have appealed to Parliament—to find only a fortuitous concourse of Party hacks—lawyers, preachers, school-teachers, authors, and "philosophers." We tell them that the Empire is in danger; that our trade and commerce are in jeopardy; that our taxation is becoming intolerable—and they yell out "*Marconi!*" "*That*," they say, "is the question," and they cannot be worried about anything else at the moment.

The Curse.

That is the phrase I want—the curse of it all. Is it far to seek? Yes, you know what I am coming to—the accursed system of Party Government. Just think how it works. For years, until recently, the head of our Navy was a smug young gentleman whose nautical training had probably been confined to an occasional trip from the city to Westminster by Thames steamer; and our Army was in the hands of an equity lawyer and a great student of German philosophy! Our national Finances were alternately under the control of a barrister and a solicitor—and our Trade of a solicitor, a journalist and a barrister! And these men, handicapped as they were from the start by their personal innocence of the nature of their duties, were rendered even more helpless and ridiculous by the fact that they were ever and always confronted with another set of men, of exactly the same character and quality, whose "duty" it was to "oppose" everything and anything they did. And then each of them expected to be given "a show" in the limelight of the Party play. Thus we had our Postmaster-General stumping the country on Home Rule—instead of devoting himself to the task of improving our letter service, and making the Savings Bank pay its way; the Chancellor of the Exchequer undertaking a great campaign for the social regeneration of the world—instead of looking out for new sources of revenue (such as unclaimed Bank balances and securities), and cutting down wasteful public expenditure; the Education Minister tinkering with the Franchise question—instead of abolishing the fraud of our elementary education system, and devising some scheme for really training the youth of the country to earn their livings later on; the Home Secretary busy disestablishing the Welsh Church—instead of clearing the magisterial bench of the duffers now upon it, of devising some better system than the present of administering the criminal law and attending, generally to the duties of his office. And so on and so on. Isn't it all a farce—and may not it soon become a tragedy?

No, I do not think we are "ready"!

THE LONDON HOSPITAL SCANDAL.

THE CHAIRMAN'S ANSWER TO OUR CHARGES.

In our last issue we disclosed a grave scandal at the London Hospital, Whitechapel. Our charges have been met by the Chairman, the Honourable Sydney Holland, in the following letter to us, dated April 10th:—

> Mr. Isbell has every justification for complaining of the very regrettable act that a *post-mortem* examination was held on his wife, held contrary to his express wish and contrary to his promise to Mrs. Isbell. We have expressed our deep regret that this should have happened, and it could not have happened if the rules of the hospital had been carried out. Let me state what these rules are, so that it may be quite clear that we do our very best to prevent such a thing happening. At some hospitals it is made a *sine qua non* of admission that the hospital authorities shall be empowered to hold a *post-mortem* if it is thought necessary. But this is not so at the London. By our rules no *post-mortem* can be held without express leave having been previously obtained from the friends.

After quoting the form of instruction to the Pathologist, Mr. Holland proceeds:—

> The Chief of the *post-mortem* department will never hold a *post-mortem* unless he has previously received written information from the Secretary, or his deputy, that the friends have granted permission.
>
> In this case, when I first made enquiry, he actually said that it could not have been held as he had no note of it in his registers. What happened was, that the member of our staff went down to the Pathological Department without communicating with anybody, and performed a very modified *post-mortem*. He has expressed to the Committee his unqualified regret at having done this. He states that he held the *post-mortem* to avoid an inquest, the cause of death, in his opinion, not being clear. The patient was suffering from surgical emphysema, which often is the result of injury. He did not know of Mr. Isbell's objection to any *post-mortem* being held, nor did he know that his house physician had given a certificate of death, which he would not have allowed without a *post-mortem*. He knew about this illness because he had been called in by Mr. Isbell's doctor in consultation, and had attended her without fee at Willesden. Therefore the whole unfortunate incident happened by his breaking the rules of the hospital, for which, as I have said, he has expressed his deep regret.
>
> I am sorry you think my letter to Mr. Isbell's solicitor, Mr. Davey Turner, bullying. I could willingly overlook an indignant letter from Mr. Isbell, or any relation of Mrs. Isbell, and should sympathise with them in writing it, because we were in the wrong. But it is a different matter when a solicitor writes to me as he thought fit to do in cold blood, suggesting that the *post-mortem* had been held, to use his own words, "doubtless to satisfy the morbid and indecent curiosity of some of the hospital staff." No man is justified in writing such, and I think he deserves the letter I wrote to him, especially as he admitted, in a second letter he wrote to me, that he "felt that some ghastly mistake had inadvertently been made at the hospital." Why did he not say so at first, instead of accusing a member of the staff of having held it to satisfy a morbid and indecent curiosity?

We cannot print the last paragraph of Mr. Holland's letter, as it contains certain suggestions regarding Mr. Isbell's motives. We are fully investigating the matter, and hope to be able to return to the subject next week.

We must compliment Mr. Sydney Holland on the improvement in the style of his letter writing, but at the same time we cannot accept his contention that the incident should be allowed to drop because the doctor who has improperly performed a *post-mortem* has apologised *to the Committee*. Surely, the pathological chamber is under lock and key? Has the person in charge been called before the Committee? The fact of the matter is, that in this case a member of the staff of the London Hospital has broken the "Eleventh Commandment"! Apologies are all very well in their way, but they afford little reparation for so grave an outrage; "smooth words butter no parsnips," and in such cases suave language seldom salves the harrowed feelings of relatives. That the claim to the right to hack is not confined to the London Hospital we have ample proof, and the sooner the different Committees understand that exposure will follow any exceeding of the bounds of decency in this matter, the better it will be for all concerned.

A DIRTY DODGE.

HOW TRADERS ARE TRICKED BY "EXPERT" CANVASSERS.

The Expert Advertising Company, of Sheffield, will do well to keep a vigilant eye upon the methods of their touring representatives. A reader received a call from two agents of the Company, who strongly urged him to arrange with them for an advertisement on the curtain of a local "Empire." Our correspondent, who was under twenty-one at the time, tells us that he declined the suggestion, whereupon one of the agents asked hm to put his name to a paper "just to show that they had called upon him." It appears that the document which the shopkeeper was thus induced to sign was, in fact, an order for an advertisement which he had declined, and that the agents had thus obtained by trickery what they had failed to secure by persuasion.

A few weeks ago our correspondent was served with a County Court summons at the instance of the Company, and he at once intimated his intention of defending the action. On the eve of the trial, however, another representative of the plaintiffs called upon him, and in the course of conversation the shopkeeper mentioned that he was under twenty-one at the time of the alleged contract—a fact which in itself was, of course, a strong defence to the County Court action, apart altogether from the question of fraud—and he was thereupon assured by the agent that the summons would be withdrawn, and that he need not trouble to attend the Court. This statement appears to have been nothing more than a piece of cunning trickery to keep the defendant out of the County Court. The summons was not withdrawn. Judgment went against the tradesman by default, and he was ordered to pay the sum of five pounds to the Company within ten days.

We cannot believe that these shameless frauds can have been perpetrated with the knowledge or approval of the Express Advertising Company. But now that the facts have been made public their duty is clear. They must at once disclaim the acts of their dishonest agents, and refuse to profit by the trickery which has been practised. Meanwhile, our correspondent should place the whole facts before the Registrar of the Sheffield County Court.

"THERE'S HEIRS!"

LOOKING FOR A NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK.

One of our readers, whose patronymic happens to be the highly respectable but not very uncommon one of James Walsh, sends us a letter he has received from 8, Darncombe Street, Manchester, and signed "F. Bradock," which runs:—

> I enclose part of copy of advertisement relating to money or estate lying unclaimed. As it might possibly refer to you, if you send me a few shillings for drawing your attention to it I will forward the other part showing address where to apply.

Pasted to the communication is the mutilated advertisement:—

> WALSH (JAMES) or any of his relatives, may Benefit by communicating with Thomas

Now, seeing that thousands of individuals of the name of James Walsh are living in the United Kingdom, to say nothing of the rest of the world, and that relatives of such persons probably number millions, the sending of a "few shillings" by each of them to the ingenious Mr. Bradock should result in placing him above the reach of want for the rest of his life. Our correspondent asks our advice in the matter; it is that he should send no money, offering the treasure-tracer a share of the fortune when it is obtained.

Such methods are, of course, open to very grave abuse. It is, for instance, possible for an unscrupulous person to advertise for the heirs of entirely fictitious millionaires bearing a common name—the dupes acquiring nothing (except experience) for the amount paid for information to enable them to recover the mythical money. By the bye, Mr. Bradcock's letter is undated, but as that of our reader is headed "April 4th," it was probably written about the 1st of that month!

Your Last Chance to Win our £1,000 Football Prize.

PRISON FOR "THE PEST."

N.S.P.C.C. ASSIST US TO CAPTURE A BLACKGUARD.

In our issue of March 22nd we inserted this paragraph :—

A Tip about the "Tip."

> When the Plymouth police have finished spying on bookmakers and prosecuting whist-drive promoters, perhaps they will give a little attention to the protection of children. Several parents write complaining about a brute who frequents Beaumont Park and indecently assaults little children. Whenever complaints have been lodged, the official reply is that it is a difficult matter to catch the man. Of course it is. All the more reason for increased vigilance. We suggest to the Chief Constable that a few plain-clothes constables should be placed on special duty near the waste ground known as the "Tip."

Special posters were also exhibited locally calling attention to the grave scandal. In spite of posters and paragraph, however, the filthy scoundrel still carried on his practices, the police apparently making no energetic effort to capture him. We, therefore, paid a visit to the Director of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, placed all the facts before him, and asked him to assist us. One of their special investigators was despatched to Plymouth at once, with the result that within a few days an arrest was made. On April 8th, George Leaman was charged before the local magistrates with two offences against children, whose ages ranged from seven to ten years. After hearing the evidence of Dr. Vawdrey, who had been called in by the N.S.P.C.C. official, the prisoner was remanded to the Sessions, immediately following, and at the trial on April 12th there was little trouble in proving the offences. As the miscreant had three previous convictions registered against him for indecent behaviour, his sentence was eighteen months' hard labour. So Plymouth is rid of a pest and an end is put to a reign of terror, during which parents were afraid to let their children leave their homes. But for the hearty co-operation with us of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, however, the human monster would in all probability not only have been at large, but have added considerably to his appalling list of child-victims. Once more we strongly advise the police to pay less attention to little boys who smoke cigarettes, to devote less time to hiding round corners endeavouring to trap bookmakers' touts, and to exert more energy in the detection of pests of the type of Leaman.

ARE HOME SAFES SAFE?

MESSAGE TO OUR READERS FROM A DIRECTOR.

We recently called attention to the curious methods of a concern known as Home Safes, Limited, and expressed the opinion that the continued silence of the Directors of the Company was calculated to throw grave suspicion upon its *bona-fides*. We have now received a letter from a Director, in which he informs us that a Statement of Accounts is being prepared, and will be submitted to the shareholders in due course. We shall await the publication of this document before having anything further to say upon the matter, except to remind the Directors that the patience of the shareholders has already been sorely tried, and that they will do well to complete their labours with all possble speed.

Our correspondent calls attention to the fact that by a printer's error in our recent article, the nominal capital of the Company was stated to be £50,000 instead of £5,000. We gladly make this correction which, however, in no way affects the gravamen of our complaint.

ANOTHER GOOD TIME COMING!

Look out next week for particulars of our colossal new Summer Competition, which will be found to be of interest alike to footballers, cricketers and every other section of the sporting public. As in the case of our recent phenomenally successful Mammoth Football Competitions, will be no entrance fee, and competitors will be able to judge for themselves the results of their efforts—but *we* shall provide the gigantic prizes!

A HOLLOW SWINDLE.

THE DENMAN STREET DEN OF THIEVES.

We have frequently warned our readers against the gang which, under the name of the Great Central Supply Co., Ltd., preys upon the pockets of the poor. From the Company's address at 7, Denman Street, London Bridge, goes forth a band of robbers who palm off, usually upon the ignorant servant girls, trashy "jewellery," at incredibly exorbitant prices.

In December, 1910, a young woman's eyes were dazzled by a bracelet, hollow and of feather weight, and set with five trumpery stones. The canvasser's eulogy of the article was enthusiastic, but the Company's written description significantly states merely, "gold bracelet." For this the customer was induced to consent to pay no less than £4. She married, and the new Benedick, learning the facts, rushed chivalrously to the assistance of his Beatrice. He visited the Denman Street den and found the Company with the ostentatious name installed on the third floor at the top of the building, which is as near to the traditional abode of the righteous as they will probably ever get. Doubtless, some maturer and more wily person of the stronger sex lurks in the background, but through the little hole in the window by means of which all business must be transacted, two young girls only were visible. A stormy interview ensued, in the course of which the husband announced the intention of paying no more. The spokeswoman of the Company took this declaration very calmly—possibly being familiar with such an attitude on the part of customers—and endorsed the collection card, which now showed a credit of £2 9s., as paid in full!

We have submitted the bracelet to a qualified valuer, who reports: "The bracelet is of 9 ct. gold, hall-marked. The 'stones' consist of two Cape rubies, value together 5s.; one paste ruby, value *nil* (6d. per 100 new); two very rough rose diamonds, worth 2s. the two retail, and 6 dwts. of 9 ct. gold, value 9s. 6d. As a bracelet, new, this would be bought for 30s. to 35s. at outside, but *could* be bought for probably 20s. This is cheap 'Brummagem' jewellery, and would only be sold in a cheap locality. It is hollow." *Verb. sap.*

FOOTLIGHTS AND FILTH.

WARNING TO PARENTS AGAINST A BRIXTON BEAST.

One of our readers has written us with regard to a man named Sam Richards, of 37B, Electric Avenue, Brixton, who engages artistes for musical sketches. He tells us that in February last Richards entered into business relationship with his daughter, under which she was to appear in a sketch entitled "Venetia," which was to go out for a long tour after one week's rehearsal. The rehearsals were, however, prolonged for another fortnight, during the whole of which period the young lady attended at Brixton every weekday and on one Sunday—of course, without payment. Richards thus had ample opportunity of making himself acquainted with her abilities and competency, as he was present at practically every one of the rehearsals. After a tour which lasted but a fortnight, the sketch returned to town for an indefinite period—in fact, we are told, it has not yet gone again on the road. The young artiste reached home in very bad health, and her father wrote to Richards that she would be unable to attend at Brixton for a day or two. By return of post came an intimation that it had been necessary to fill her place. The father, believing the real reason for this haste to get rid of his daughter to be that, as she was receiving more pay than anyone else in the show, Richards was anxious to cut down expenses, wrote him to this effect. It was not an excessively polite communication—containing, as it did, attempts at sarcasm—but it in no way warranted the disgustingly indecent and virulent effusion which came in reply. We are unable to reproduce the abominable language in which it is couched. Were we to do so, it would at once bring home to parents the danger which must beset girls who are placed under the control of, and necessarily come into contact with, a beast who could be capable of putting such thoughts into cold, calculated, written form. There is, surely, some significance in the fact that Richards' telegraphic address is "Guilty, London"!

CRIMINAL STUPIDITY.

LIGHT-HEADEDNESS CAUSES MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE.

A Cork correspondent calls our attention to the case of Patrick Herlihy, a law-writer of that city, who was recently placed on trial for stealing a money order. Herlihy has always borne an excellent character, and his case is just one more illustration of the grossly unfair way in which the machinery of the criminal law oppresses the poor.

It appears that Herlihy was arrested on Friday, the 22nd of February, and was taken to the Tuckey Street Police Barrack. He was there identified by a Post Office clerk named Drury as the man who had cashed the stolen order, and formally charged with the crime. He was placed in a police cell for the night, and the next morning was brought up before the magistrates. Apparently the prosecution were not quite ready to begin, and a remand for a week was granted, the prisoner being offered bail if he could find two sureties in the sum of £10.

Unfortunately, Herlihy was a poor man, and being unable to obtain sureties acceptable to the police, he was lodged in the Cork male prison to await the resumption of his trial. During his week of incarceration, although no criminal charge had been proved against him, he was compelled to wear prison dress, and to perform prison tasks. On the following Saturday he was again taken to the Magistrates' Court, and this time was confronted with the man Drury, who was called to give evidence of identification. By this time Drury was apparently less certain about the identity of the person who had cashed the stolen money order, and he now expressed some doubt about the matter, despite the fact that he had cheerfully identified Herlihy at the police station.

We cannot understand why the magistrates did not dispose of the trumpery charge after the collapse of Drury's evidence, but for some reason or other, they ordered another remand. This time the police very properly accepted two of the prisoner's friends as sureties, and he was accordingly released on bail. A week later he made his third appearance at the police court, when the prosecution withdrew the unsupported charge, although, had it been proceeded with, Herlihy could have produced twelve credible witnesses to prove a complete alibi.

In view of the prisoner's unfortunate position, the magistrates would have shown a higher regard for the claims of justice if they had expedited the proceedings by compelling the prosecution to disclose their case at the first hearing. The practice of remanding poor prisoners in custody is open to grave objection, and should be resorted to only in cases of real necessity. For the rest, Herlihy has to thank Drury for his unhappy experience. A man who lightly gives evidence of identification at the police station, and airily withdraws it in Court, is acting with callous carelessness, which merits severe censure.

We gather that since the trial Drury has been heard to indulge in a good deal of feather-brained talk upon the matter. He will be wise to keep a civil tongue.

DOUBLY SURE.

DISHING THE DROVER OF HIS DOG.

Among the persons exempt from the tax for keeping dogs are cattle-drovers, using the animals in the pursuit of their calling. A Widnes man, who recently gave notice of application to the local Court for the grant of a certificate relieving him of the impost, was served with the following notice:—

DOGS ACT, 1906.

In the Petty Sessional Court held at Widnes for the Division of Widnes. . . .

NOTICE OF OBJECTION.

I, Wm. Foster, of the County Police Office, Widnes, Superintendent of Police, object to the consent of the Court being given to the grant of a certificate of exemption from licence duty on the application made by ——— ———.

The grounds of my objection are as follows:—

He has not got a dog.

WM. FOSTER,
Superintendent.

Thus, to adapt the Bard, was assurance against an unlicensed canine companion made doubly sure!

CHILD CHEATERS.

THE MODERN "KINCHIN LAY" FOR MEAN COWARDS.

A father tells us that his fourteen-year-old child, being anxious to obtain a watch, started saving up her coppers. However, seeing in a girls' weekly paper one of the "Williams and Lloyd" catches offering "a real Lever Simulation Gold Watch free," and describing the announcement as a "straightforward generous offer from an established firm," she sent 8d. to 89, Cornwallis Road, Upper Holloway, as directed, to cover "postage, packing, etc.," on one of their "fashionable ladies' long guards to wear with the watch"—the timepiece itself, it was asserted, would be "quite free" should she "take advantage of the marvellous offer." This rigmarole thus succeeded in deceiving her into the belief that the watch would be presented on sending the eightpence. The child, in exchange for her money, got a chain—which, we are assured, it would be difficult to sell at three yards a penny—and the usual four dozen trashy post-cards to dispose of at a penny each, the money to be remitted to the Holloway harpies. She sold the cards, naturally with great trouble, to friends who did not want them but wished to help her to get her watch. The further money was forwarded to Williams and Lloyd. Then, instead of the simulation golden glory, the girl was sadly disappointed at receiving another letter urging her to send half-a-crown for a "beautiful leather plush-finished hinged-back case, fitted with a patent snap," so that the watch might be packed in it. By this time the poor child's money-box had been depleted, but a couple of days after she received another flowery, though urgent, request for the half-crown. The father now intervened and threatened that he would take proceedings against the rascals if they did not send the watch which had been paid for. Thereupon the Cornwallis Road cheats demanded sixpence for postage and threepence for a key. This was sent, but when the timepiece arrived the postage was found to have cost only a penny! It is hardly necessary to say that the watch is quite worthless.

We think it is time that the police showed these despicable scallawags that, clever as they think themselves, the arm of the law is strong and long enough to reach such tricksters.

BUNGLING AT BUNGALOW TOWN.

PRINCIPLES CARRIED TOO FAR INTO PRACTICE.

Between Shoreham and Lancing, and in close proximity to the beach, are some 250 bungalows. At Easter time the sea along the South Coast was lashed to almost unprecedented fury by a great gale—with the result that many of the bungalows were washed hundreds of yards away, and became wrecks. In view of the extraordinary nature of the inundation—due to the rare combination of strong wind, full moon, and peculiar tide—it would seem at first sight that the landlords, the Shoreham and Lancing Land Co., are not to blame for the "simple-lifers" being compelled to carry the practice of their principles further than they intended, by being driven back to the bare land. The dispossessed tenants, however, take up the position that the landlords are responsible, because in 1897 the Lord of the Manor, Mr. Carr Lloyd, sold to the Company for £30,000 the foreshore upon which the bungalows are built, there being a covenant to maintain and keep the beach sea defence protections in a safe state. They commenced to build and to let building plots, but besides, it is asserted, neglecting to erect sea encroachment groins, they sold the very foundations upon which the bungalows were built, the right to remove shingle fetching £5,000. There has been a Local Government Board inquiry, but its findings are regarded as adding insult to injury, as the real effect of them is that the bungalow dwellers are to be taxed in order to provide the sea groins, thus relieving of their obligation the shareholders in the Company—who must heartily agree with St. Luke's definition of a foolish man as one who "built his house upon the sand, and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat upon the house, and great was the fall of it."

Our Final Football Coupon appears on page ii. of Cover. Your Last Chance.

"EXPERIENTIA DOCET"?

WHY THE "TITANIC" DISASTER MIGHT BE REPEATED

Although it is said that "experience teaches fools," the folly of the bogus Board of Trade seems too deep for any useful lesson to be learned by the Department. Tuesday last saw the first anniversary of the sinking of the leviathan liner with a loss of 1,490 lives, and the present therefore affords a fitting occasion to review what has been done to render such a calamity unlikely to recur.

Oiling Stormy Waters.

The Inquiry presided over by Lord Mersey, after many weary sittings, produced a Report which was practically an attempt at whitewashing all that from a business tribunal would have received censure. Practically the only useful recommendations of the Commissioners were adopted from these columns, but their efficacy was, of course, almost entirely dependent upon the manner in which they were carried out by the Department. For instance, our famous demand of "Boats for All" on board foreign-going steamers has been conceded, but as there is under the new regulations no obligation to provide gear capable of launching those boats on either side of the vessel, nor are shipowners compelled to carry sufficient seamen to lower and man them, it is obvious that in this respect little has been done to avert another terrible—it is hardly too strong to say criminal—wholesale fatality. The other precautionary recommendations of Lord Mersey's Report have, except in one or two minor cases, been calmly ignored by the Board; they still rely on their surveyors—the astonishing incompetence of whom we have so often exposed—to pass the boats and gear, the Department being apparently contemptuous of the fact that the cursory squint-eyed inspection has even quite recently resulted in several deaths. No tests have been imposed regarding the eyesight of look-out men, though the officers are being harassed with ridiculous examinations which all practical experts agree are useless.

So the game goes on! Committees on Bulkheads and on Lifeboats are sitting, and by the Greek Kalends will probably hatch their eggs. Meantime, while their own Committee has not yet reported, new lifeboat regulations have been issued, and these came into force on the 1st of last month. Already modifications have had to be made, as it was obviously impossible to carry out some of the provisions, whilst others were muddled and contradictory. In view of the unsatisfactory nature of these "scare" regulations, the best way out of the difficulty will doubtless be their supersession by fresh ones based on the Report of the Committee—*when* it is issued and *if* its suggestions are of any practical value.

Too much "Play" for Jack.

The wisest recommendation of Lord Mersey's Report is one which was also copied from this journal—namely, that some means should be adopted, especially on short-voyage Atlantic liners, to secure greater continuity of service, the crews not being summarily discharged at the end of each voyage as at present. In the course of a few days' passage it is obviously impossible for the hands to be efficiently trained in fire and boat drill and know the "ins" and "outs" of the gigantic liner, the lives of many hundreds of their fellow-beings on board which are entrusted to them. Despite this imperative reform, the Board still continues the methods of shipping and discharging which served when voyages frequently lasted two or three years. Were this antiquated and cruel system abolished and a more business-like and humane course adopted—such as the crews being signed on for four or six months and when in port kept at work on the vessel—all the labour troubles with the sailors and firemen would also automatically cease.

Twelve months have passed! But not a word has been heard from the Board's Nautical Advisers in the way of suggestion or recommendation of any improvement on the anachronistic davit, with its absurd capacity for lowering. As we pointed out years ago, the Germans are much ahead of us in these matters. They have long carried "boats for all" (declared by the Board's "experts" to be an impossibility!), and their new mammoth liner, the *Vaterland*, is provided with 83 of them, 70 of which (by means of an improved gear) can be lowered from either side. Cannot the Germans come over and teach the "Mistress of the Seas" her business?

POOR-LAW HOOLIGANS.

BRUTAL ASSAULT UPON INFIRMARY WHITECHAPEL PATIENT.

Having received information from various sources that a brutal assault had been committed upon a patient in the Whitechapel Infirmary, and that the matter was being hushed up by the authorities, we proceeded to make enquiries on the spot.

Upon arriving at the Infirmary we handed our card to the Steward, informed him of the nature of our visit, and in our politest manner asked that he would either deny or confirm the report. His reply was, "I am not the proper person to apply to. You should see the Medical Superintendent." He then left us to acquaint that gentleman of our presence. In a few minutes he returned, and told us the Medical Officer was out. Asked when that gentleman would return, his reply was "Uncertain." The Steward then suggested that we should write to the Clerk to the Guardians; but, knowing that this official was in the building, we intimated that upon a matter of such importance we much preferred a personal interview. "If you will sit down," said the Steward, "I will see if I can get him." In the course of a few minutes we were informed that the Clerk was engaged, but that we should see him later. After we had waited half an hour, the Steward approached and, pointing to a room, said: "That's the Clerk to the Guardians' office; you had better go and find him yourself." We went, and discovered that he had left the premises! So we had to come away without any explanation whatever.

Now, there is no doubt that we were got rid of by a trick, and we have no alternative but to place before the public the statement we have received regarding the assault. If it is wrong in any detail, then the authorities have themselves to blame. In "B" ward there is a poor old man, aged 68, named Monk. He is suffering from chronic rheumatism, and is of rather weak intellect. At the breakfast table recently he incurred the displeasure of a male night nurse, who thereupon brutally attacked him. First of all he punched the helpless cripple about the body, after which he dragged him into the bathroom, where he aggravated the assault by kicking him. After this gruelling the old chap was unable to walk, and had to crawl back to his bed as best he could. We are informed that the matter was reported to the Medical Officer, but no notice has been taken of it. What has Mr. Burns to say?

"PIPPY" PIPERS.

COMPULSORY CHOIR FOR CAMERONIANS' CHURCH.

It seems to us that the buglers and pipers of the Cameronians have a legitimate grievance. The men who do not play instruments in the band have to join a choir to sing in church. They don't complain so much about the Sunday work as the preparation during the six weekdays. According to one account, the Bandmaster is qualifying for grand opera; he is described as possessing a "voice like a nightingale." The buglers and pipers would not mind that so much if he would only bear in mind that singing is a gift which can rarely be acquired, no matter with what perseverance. No doubt, the next edition of that marvellous pamphlet "Advantages of the Army," will contain a chapter on choir singing. The Commanding Officer of the Cameronians would do well to remedy this grievance. If the Chaplain *will* have a choir, we would suggest that he should train one himself, and that it should be composed, not of already hard-worked men, but of the defaulters in the regiment. We once knew a Commanding Officer who entirely stamped out crime in his regiment by these means—but that's another story.

THOSE "TENNERS"!

A BRADFORD READER'S GOOD FORTUNE.

We have pleasure in announcing that the copy of our issue of April 12th numbered 003752 has been forwarded to us by Mr. W. Cowles, of 135, Birch Lane, Bradford, Yorks., to whom we have in exchange sent a cheque for £10. As will be seen from the announcement on page 1, a similar sum is again offered, for a particular copy of our last issue.

"Bullets" Prizes Increased. 500 additional Cash Prizes of 5s. this week.

"JOHN BULL'S" WEEKLY CINEMA.

BULL-DOGGEREL RHYMES BY "THE BOW-WOW."

At Bow Street Bottomley appears
And wins his case, of course;
The verdict was received with cheers
And made the kill-joys cross.

Wherever can have Martin gone,
The Yankee man of wealth?
He left the R.A.C. alone
And in the best of health.

Clothes are becoming less and less,
Authorities declare;
And soon our dames' most stylish dress
Will leave the wearer bare.

Through London town the sailor Japs
On motor 'buses trip,
As smart a looking lot of chaps
As ever manned a ship.

The Pope his doctors disobeys,
And rises from his bed,
And great vitality displays
Although as good as dead.

Max at the Leicester Galleries
Caricatures displays;
We like his witty railleries,
But not his smug self-praise.

ONLY A PAUPER!

WAS THE CORONER'S NAME MASTERMAN?

At a recent inquest on a Hampton Hill woman who died from shock following burns, some astounding facts were brought to light. It appears that the unfortunate woman was in a house by herself at the time of the occurrence, and it is supposed that, in a fit, she fell against a fire. Her screams attracted the attention of passers by, with the result that the police ambulance was fetched to take her to the Teddington Cottage Hospital. Just as the ambulance was starting, Dr. Howard, the woman's regular medical attendant, arrived, and disclosed the appalling fact, that she was a pauper. (meaning, we suppose, that she had received outdoor relief), and that she should therefore be conveyed to the Kingston Poor Law Infirmary.

Thereupon the ambulance was dismissed, and Dr. Howard telephoned to the Infirmary. The van of that institution was not available, and the unhappy victim, who was suffering excruciating agony, was actually kept waiting until a horse van could be secured to convey her to the Poor hospital, where she shortly succumbed. In extenuation of this extraordinary procedure, Dr. Howard expressed the opinion that the Cottage Hospital authorities would have refused to admit her. We do not believe it. Far from agreeing with the coroner that Dr. Howard "acted for the best," we cannot conceive that the gates of the Cottage Hospital would have been barred against her.

RAILWAY RIGHTS AND WRONGS.

A QUESTION FOR LORD CLAUD HAMILTON.

In the settlement of the 1911 Railway Strike the railway companies undertook to make certain concessions to their employees in the way of increased pay and reduced hours of labour on condition that the Government introduced and passed a Bill authorising the railways to increase certain of their rates to compensate for the rise in working expenses. Although the passage into law of the Railway Bill is tardy, that is no reason why the railway companies should not meanwhile fulfil their pledges to the railway workers, for it was on that understanding that the Government undertook to give the measure special facilities in the House. In one instance at least this does not appear to have been done, for we are informed that the G.E.R. carmen at the Manchester depot have not received a farthing advance in wages, nor any reduction in working hours. These men appear to be the only railway servants in Manchester who have not been granted the concessions promised in the 1911 settlement. We would be glad to know what is Lord Claud Hamilton's explanation of this unsatisfactory state of affairs. It is no use throwing the blame upon the Government, for the fact that on other lines—and even on a considerable portion of the G.E.R. system—the increased rate has been granted surely precludes this as a valid defence. It is a curious commentary, however, that almost to a man the Labour M.Ps. are bitterly hostile to the new Bill.

Our Great New Summer Competition. See next week's issue.

FOUR HAPPY MEN.

CONCERNING OUR FOOTBALL PENSION WINNERS.

As announced in our issue of April 5th, the £3 per week pension for life which we offered in connection with our Football Competition was divided by :—

Mr. P. McCormack,
97, Durban Road, West Ham, E.
Mr. G. W. Golby,
17, Ebor Terrace, Bilton, Harrogate.
Mr. H. Bridges,
33, Wood Street, Dukinfield.
Mr. Charles W. Taylor,
84, Clovelley Road, Southampton,

and a few particulars respecting these fortunate readers will be of interest.

Writing us on April 3rd, Mr. Taylor tells us that he first received the "great news" from a friend who had purchased a copy of John Bull in Guernsey, and showed it to him on arrival at Southampton. He is only 18 years of age, and is at present employed as a junior clerk in the Southampton Branch of the Bowring Petroleum Company. His family is well known in Southampton, and his success was popular in the ancient town. "It is nice," he says, "to know that I have an income which will help me in my future career." So much for Mr. Taylor.

Mr. McCormack favoured us with a personal call, and informed us that he is 39 years of age, and has been for many years a collector in the employ of a well-known Typewriter Company. They gave him special leave of absence during the South African War, in order that he might go out and fight for his country—with the result that he received two medals with eight clasps. He sent in only six coupons in connection with the whole Competition, and attributes his success largely to the fact that he has always taken a keen interest in the game, having acted as referee in various school matches; and he concluded the interview by asking us to express to his fellow winners his sincere congratulations that they had shared his good fortune.

As regards Mr. Golby, he tells us that he has previously won several prizes in football competitions, including one for Rugby matches. He is 33 years of age, is a house-painter by trade, and—evidently with the object of impressing us with the serious responsibility we have incurred towards him—states that he is "remarkably strong and healthy, having never had any illness of any kind, or required the services of a doctor." He has not even troubled to get his doctor's card under the Insurance Act and he is "nearly an abstainer, and unmarried"! So we are evidently in for a big sum so far as he is concerned. He has "latterly spent some considerable time studying football form"—to which fact he attributes his success. And he is possessed of that caution so characteristic of the Yorkshireman, as witness the following sentence from his letter:—"I am not married, and have no girl at present—preferring to get the cage before the bird." We are happy to think that we shall have been instrumental in enabling him to carry out this wise policy.

Mr. Bridges tells us that congratulations have been showered upon him from all quarters. His age is 38, and he is a married man with two children. He is employed by a Sewing Machine Company, and is overjoyed at his success.

A CIRCUS TRICK.

CHEAP—AND NASTY—ADVERTISING IN NEWPORT.

One of the time-honoured tricks of the circus ring is the clown's "making a fool" of some member of the company. It would, however, appear that this practice is not confined to the inside of the tent, but extends to shops in the towns visited. During the last year or two we have received several complaints from tradesmen who had been induced—in return for what are termed "window advertising vouchers" undertaking to give an admission ticket in exchange—to permit the proprietors of Lord George Sanger's circus to display advertisement bills in their windows. The latest grumble is from Newport, in South Wales, a hairdresser there informing us that, after showing placards for nearly two weeks, he and several other tradesmen were "given the go-by."

Such methods are, of course, very cheap—and nasty.

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CCXLII.

[In this column every week we publish particulars of some human derelict whose case, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.]

SHALL DARBY AND JOAN STARVE?

A Newark-on-Trent lady writes:—

At Hose, in Leicestershire, a man named George Daft for many years was a kind of farm labourer, and in fact the only man, and did everything on a Miss Rouse's farm in the village—milked, gardened, bought and sold her beasts, reared them, and did a hundred things pertaining to the farm. He was paid only a labourer's wage—but as he was a cripple and always went about with one crutch, he was afraid to ask for more for fear of losing his place. Well, this poor man pricked his finger while cutting his mistress's hedge; blood poisoning set in, and he was unable to go to work, though to oblige her I believe he tried to on and off.

He became very bad and his finger was amputated (by a doctor in his own cottage). He was extremely ill and unable to return to his work, and has been very bad ever since, for the poison seems to be in his system. After long delay, Miss Rouse, his former employer, brought a paper for Daft to sign, telling him it was to get his compensation. He signed it. Then, it appears, an Inspector came down from Nottingham and told him a mis-statement had been made with regard to the time of his illness—and also that it was sent in too late. The consequence was Daft never got anything. He is an extremely honest, hard-working man. Since the accident he and his wife have been living on the verge of starvation. A few months since Daft's wife attained the age of 70, and now they have the 5s. a week to live upon, but he is still ill and unable to do anything. Bit by bit they are selling their furniture, and this is killing his poor wife—for, by-the-way, she is the last of a highly respected family who have lived in the house they are occupying for many generations under the Dukes of Rutland. I am afraid I may have explained the case badly—but I assure you it is a very pitiable one.

Upon receipt of this letter, we naturally communicated with the poor man's late employer, Miss Rouse, and here is her reply:—

The Cottage, Hose, April 3rd.

Sir,—It's no use you asking me for dates respecting G. Daft's accident, for my memory is not good enough now to give them. All I can say is it's a serious case and needs help, but don't ask me any more questions, please.—I am, etc., S. Rouse.

We have tried in vain to ascertain the name of the Insurance Company, so that we might get to know who is responsible for the non-payment, but have failed, because the poor old labourer does not know, and the employer says—"Don't ask any more questions"!

We have received the following donations, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents" named:

CCXXXVII.—C. M., 2s.; S. I., 1s.; S. J., 2s. 6d.
CCXXXVIII.—C. M., 2s.; A. W. W., 2s. 6d.
CCXXXIX.—C. M., 2s.; S. I., 1s.
CCXL.—H. S. W., 1s.; "Sympathiser," 6d.; "Tubby," 5s.; "A Crumb," 2s. 6d.; "Heather," 2s.; "Elstow," 1s.; "Merit Prize Winner," 6d.; "Antiquarian," 5s.; C. M., 2s.; A. B., 5s.; "Hellespont," £1; G. R., 5s.; A. B., £1; E. J. L., 2s.; "Parrot," 1s.; Mr. H., Petroleum Emulsion; "Evelyn Celia," 1s.; N. W., 1s.; Mrs. S. G., 10s.; B. W., 5s.; J. E., 3s.; "Kildonan," 1s.; E. H. J., 1s.; M. M., 2s. 6d.; J. E., 2s. 6d.; "Falmouth Prizewinner," 1s.; "Ex-Lancer," 2s. 6d.; R. T., 8s.; P. A. W., 1s.; "Don," 6d.; D. M., 2s. 6d.; "Yorkshire Reader," 1s.; "No. III.," 1s.; T. T., 5s.; "Covercoat," 1s.; "Star," 2s. 6d.; J. E. H. W., 1s.; "Scotch Lad," 2s.; "Dick Turpin," 2s.; "Won a Double," £1; "D.O.W.T.," 2s. 6d.; "A Fellow Sufferer," 2s.; J. H. N., 1s. 4d.
CCXLI.—"Ivy Mary," 5s.; W. A., 1s.; C. F., 2s.; R. W., 1s.; G. R., 1s.; "Free Privet," 2s.; S. F., 1s.; "Kendon," 2s. 6d.; "Fag," 5s.; J. H. N., 1s. 5d.; "Charlie," 1s.

"D.O.U.T.E.R."—We are surprised that you should state that your two previous communications were not acknowledged, as the 2s. 6d. sent as from "D.O.U.T." was included in the list published in our issue of March 29th; whilst the amount you desired to be treated as from "D.O.U.T." was acknowledged on March 15th. As you are aware, the other 2s. 6d. was attributed to "D.O.U.T.E.R." in our number dated April 5th. You are a trifle hasty, but charity covers a multitude of sins!

A Magnificent Piano and 200 other Prizes offered to "Mary Bull" readers. Out on Friday.

Quality Rules Price

even in Dry-Cleaning and Dyeing. Our charges may be slightly higher than are quoted elsewhere, but when the values are compared, it will be found that our prices are really low in comparison. When you have a suit which is not worn out, but has become soiled, stained or creased—

SEND it to JOHNSONS'

to be treated by their Patent Process, because:

1. They extract ALL the dust and dirt with which the fabric is impregnated.
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3. Suits ordered to be dyed are first dry-cleaned, and the vest and sleeve linings are removed to avoid any "dyed" appearance.
4. The garments will be returned beautifully finished and tailor pressed.

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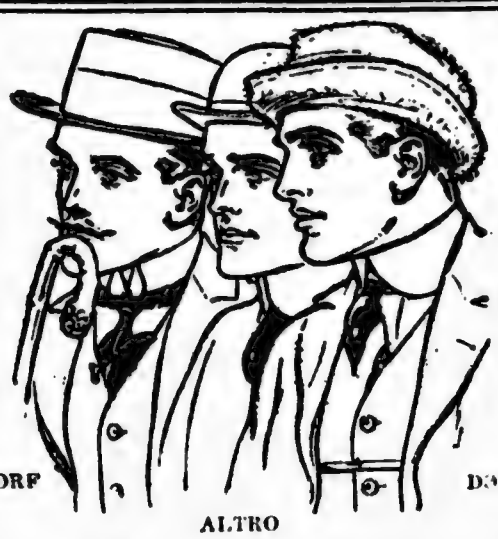

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1/- and 2/6

AT ALL HOSIERS.

NOT "ROGUES AND VAGABONDS."

MAGISTRATE'S TRIBUTE TO THE WORK OF "JOHN BULL" IN PROTECTING THE PUBLIC.

In accordance with the intimation given in last week's issue, the Editor duly put in an appearance at Bow Street Police Court on Thursday last, in connection with the ridiculous proceedings instituted by the Commissioner of Police in respect to the prominent references which have from time to time appeared in these columns, in connection with the great JOHN BULL Derby Sweepstake, now being organised and worked by Mr. Patrick O'Brien, at Geneva, Switzerland. The charge was launched under an antiquated Act of George IV., which, as Mr. Bottomley pointed out, is actually entitled "An Act to authorise the raising of money by Lottery," but a sub-section of which was designed to prohibit anyone calling attention to foreign lotteries—lest they would thereby be encouraging competition with the State.

The Commissioner of Police was represented by Mr. Muskett, of the firm of Wontner and Sons, solicitors, and a milder and more courteous prosecutor could not be imagined. He facetiously asked the Magistrate to convict us of being "rogues and vagabonds," and to fine us the penalty of £25 provided for by the Summary Jurisdiction Act. Of course, the phrase did not alarm us, for we remembered that, by law, Sir Beerbohm Tree, Sir George Alexander, and Mr. Forbes-Robertson, are to-day "rogues and vagabonds"! Mr. Muskett in no way impeached the *bona fides* of the Sweepstake—and we can only surmise that the proceedings are due to the fear that the immense popularity of the project might compel the Government to follow the example of enlightened countries and avail itself of the revenue which they reap from such sources.

THE EDITOR'S DEFENCE.

Mr. Bottomley did not fail to emphasise this fact. He also commented on a significant feature of the prosecution—namely, that it has not availed itself of the right conferred by the Act, to obtain the authority of the Attorney-General to ask for heavy penalties. He expressed surprise that, while the perpetrators of so many serious crimes are still at large, the police could find time to harass him in his endeavour to protect the public. He quoted authority from decisions in the High Court, in support of his contention that nothing which had appeared in JOHN BULL was a contravention of the Lottery Acts, and further submitted that even if it could be said that there had been a technical offence, the case should be dealt with on the well known principle which declares that the law takes no notice of trifles. Finally, he suggested that—although the proceedings were, in his view, irregular, and that the Prosecution was wrong, both in law and in fact, and that if necessary, he was prepared to take the case to the High Court—it would probably meet the convenience of all parties if the Magistrate would exercise the power given him by the Probation Act, of declining to convict, subject to the payment of a nominal sum for costs.

THE MAGISTRATE'S DECISION.

The Magistrate, Mr. Curtis Bennett, thereupon intimated that he thought this course would be the most satisfactory method of dealing with the case. Although he was of the opinion that there had been a technical breach of the section, he was "satisfied that JOHN BULL had been actuated by a perfectly sincere desire to serve the public, that it had taken up the systematic exposure of Continental frauds which were being carried on, and had done it most thoroughly, for the benefit of the public," and the only order he would make would be "No conviction—ten guineas costs." The result was received with applause in Court.

Mr. Hemmerde, K.C., M.P., and Mr. Aubrey Davies watched the case on behalf of John Bull, Ltd.

THE SHOCK STRIKE.

A DOMESTIC SPECIMEN THAT PETERED OUT.

BY RICHARD MORTON.

Joe Begdon earned two pounds a week. Out of this stupendous income he regularly handed his wife Eliza the sum of thirty shillings every Saturday, retaining ten shillings for himself to spend in fares, club money, and such other luxuries as the British workman indulges in. When he earned any overtime, he gave his wife half of it.

Yet Eliza was not satisfied. She wanted another five shillings a week and all the overtime, so that she could engage assistance in her household duties, which she said were too heavy for her. When she tabled her terms, Joe just said it couldn't be done.

Then Mrs. Begdon began to read about shock strikes, lightning strikes, down-dishes, and down-cups-and-saucers. And a splendid scheme leaped to her brain.

When Joe came home on Friday evening he was faced with an ultimatum. There was no fire in the kitchen, and no tea things on the table. Eliza was sitting in the easy chair, holding a sheet of paper in her hand, and nibbling a pencil.

"Hullo, missis," said Joe, "ain't a poor chap going to have any tea?"

"Not unless you get it yourself," said Eliza. "I'm on strike. I've downed fires, downed tea-things and downed everything. I demand shorter hours, less work, competent assistance, two half-days a week, and more money. That's my ultimatum, all written out on this paper, ready for you to sign."

"And suppose I don't sign?"

"Then you don't get a meal in this house unless you buy the things and cook 'em yourself."

Joe picked up his hat. "Seems to me I'll have to get my meals out. Maybe I'll find some blackleg of a coffee-shop-keeper to feed me. I'll be home about ten. I suppose you won't mind me going to bed when I come home?"

"The bed ain't made, and won't be. This is a shock strike."

"It is a bit of a perisher," he admitted. "But I suppose I must make the best of it. Well, good-bye, old girl. Give us a kiss before I go."

"No," she said, firmly. "I've downed kisses and all other endearments."

"Kisses are barred, are they?" mused Joe. "Very well; I suppose I shall have to find a blackleg for 'em. So long!"

When he had gone, Mrs. Begdon got her own tea-supper, the preparation of which necessitated the lighting of the fire. It came to her rather confusedly that the getting of a meal for one entailed quite as much trouble as for two. And, when she went to bed, after locking Joe out of the room, she was obliged to make the bed, for her own comfort. If Joe had shared half of it as usual, there would have been no extra work. But Joe, as he said, "dossed on the sofa and slept like a top." He was up and out and away to the coffee-shop for breakfast before Eliza was down.

* * * * *

It was an error in tactics for Eliza to strike on a Friday, for when Joe came home with his wages on Saturday he only handed her seven-and-sixpence.

"What's this for?" asked Eliza.

"Strike pay," said Joe. And he went out saying, "I can afford some sport this afternoon."

When he came home, there was a hot supper ready, the fire was alight, and the bed was made. "It's no more trouble to prepare for two than it is for one," Eliza said. "And, Joe, you can keep all your overtime in future. But, Joe . . . you didn't . . . kiss a . . . blackleg . . . did you, Joe?"

"REYNOLDS'S" AND RAGTIME.

We congratulate our enterprising contemporary *Reynolds's* on the enormous boom that has followed on their capture of the Rag-time song market. This week they are fortunate enough to be able to publish the song which all London is humming, "I want to be in Dixie."

Huge Increase in "Bullets" Prizes this week.

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THE WORLD'S BEST CYCLE

Here is your opportunity of acquiring the finest machine which the combined capital and enterprise of the Cycle Building Industry can produce. Every experienced Cyclist will acknowledge that the Graves Modele de Luxe includes the 'Best of Everything' and is built to the finest specification ever submitted to the public.

WE DELIVER the **Graves 'Speed King' Modele de Luxe,** exactly to specification (Lady's or Gent's), Carriage Paid to all approved orders, for **10/-** Now, and Easy Monthly Payments after delivery until the account is cleared. **The Graves Guarantee** for Ten Years is behind the Machine. Fullest approval is allowed, and unless you are perfectly satisfied after full examination, we will instantly refund the whole of the money you have paid, without discussion.

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A PUBLIC BENEFACTOR.

THE VILLAGE WAG: "Did ye 'ear 'as 'ow pore ould Joe left all 'e 'ad to the parish?"
OULD GARGE: "I didn't know 'as 'ow 'e'd nuffin to leave. What were it?"
THE VILLAGE WAG: "'Is ould woman and sevin kids!"

HEARD IN THE TRAIN.

MARCONIS.

First Workman: Wot erbart yer Lloyd George nar?

Second Workman: Wot's he done ter *you*?

First Workman: 'E ain't done nuthink ter me, 'cept nickin' fourpence a week outer my 'ard *h*earned wages. 'E's a nice one, ain't he. Nar it's orl come art.

Second Workman: Wot jer mean; wot's come art?

First Workman: 'Oo did a deal in Marconis, eh?

Second Workman: Ain't 'e intitled to?

First Workman: That ain't the point. Ain't five tharsand parnd a year enuff fer 'im wivout deals on the Stock Exchange? 'E's a blinkin' Welsh 'umbug, thet's wot 'e is, and I'd tell 'im so to 'is fice.

Second Workman: Git art! You wouldn't 'ave the pluck, ole son. You'd go down on yer blinkin' knees and lick 'is boots more likely.

First Workman: Wot, me? Lick the boots of a bloke wots done a deal in Marconis? Lick the blinkin' trotter cases of a swine wot promised to give us ninepence fur fourpence? I've got too much respeck fur meself, an' don't chew make no blinkin' mistake.

Second Workman: Wot erbart wot some o' yore Tory nobs done w'en they wos in orfice? Awnser me thet.

First Workman: Wot erbart wot they done? They didn't do nothink ter be ashimed of. They didn't do no deals in Marconis, ole sport.

Second Workman: P'r'eps not. They did a darned sight wors'n thet. Some of them wos directors of Companies w'ile they 'eld orfice.

First Workman: Well, wot erbart it? W'y shuldn't they? Ain't they intitled to?

Second Workman: Then wotcher grousin' erbart Lloyd George doin' a deal in Marconis for?

First Workman: Thet's diff'rent.

Second Workman: 'Ow is it?

First Workman: 'Cos it is. Ain't it plain?

Second Workman: The on'y thing wot's plain is you're a fool. Jest becos Lloyd George is a Liberal you try to make art 'e's a wrong'un. 'E's the best friend *you've* ever 'ad in the 'Ouse, an' don't chew fergit it.

First Workman: Wot, 'im? 'E ain't no friend o' mine, ole lad. I don't call a man a friend wot pinches fourpence a week o' my wages. Four 'arf pints, mate. Thet's wot Lloyd George costs me—four 'arf pints a week; an' nothink ter show fur it. An' then 'e goes an' does a deal in Marconis. Thet's the sorter man 'e is. 'E oughter be poleaxed.

Second Workman: 'Ere, don't come ser much of it, mate, else you an' me'll fall art. Lloyd George is orl right, an' I ain't agoin' to 'ear 'im tolli orf by a blinkin' son of a sea cook like you.

First Workman: Oo, yuss! 'E's a pal o' yores, I dessay. Yore missus got the mertemerty benefit lawst week, I'm told, an' I 'ear you 'ad the spendin' of it. You got youre fourpence a week back, mate. I ain't.

Second Workman: 'Oo sed I 'ad the spendin' of it? If I knew 'oo it wos I'd 'it 'im in the blinking jore.

First Workman: Never you mind 'oo sed it. I *'eard* it; thet's orl. Wot didjer buy with it, mate? Did a little deal in Marconis, shouldn't wonder, haw, haw!

Second Workman: Go to 'ell!

First Workman: I'm goin' to Stratford Mawket first, mate, so I'll see you at t'other place later.

Second Workman: Bow-wow!

First Workman: Marconi!

Second Workman: Bow-wow!

First Workman: Lloyd George Marconi!—'Ere we are. Good-night, mate. Remember me to the missus, and tell 'er I 'ope she'll 'ave better luck with 'er nex benefit.

Porter: 'Ere, in or art? Git a move on yer!

Our Final Football Fortune. Last Chance this week.

AN OFFER TO READERS.

NEWSPAPER'S £5 NOTE.

An enterprising Journal recently offered a £5 note to the highest bidder, just to test the selling powers of the paper. Whilst the note was eventually disposed of for £4 10s., a number of applicants treated the offer as a huge joke.

A well-known firm of tailors, Messrs. H. Thomas & Co., of 142, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C., offer to make a Gent's Complete well-made Stylish Suit to measure for only 15s. 6d. Whilst this offer, which is made only to "John Bull" readers, is no less startling than the paper's offer of a £5 note, it is perfectly honest, and made by a responsible firm.

The materials are good, which you can see before ordering as samples are sent free, and a guarantee is given that if not entirely satisfactory goods are given, money is returned in full.

Send a post-card or call to-day for patterns, measure chart, and fashion sheet. Mention "John Bull," for these 15s. 6d. measure garments are essentially "John Bull" offers. See offer underneath.

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ADVERTISING OFFER TO "JOHN BULL" READERS.

We realise that to make you a customer we must go one better than our competitors, and with this object we will make "John Bull" readers a stylish, well-tailored Complete Suit for the absurdly low sum of 15s. 6d.—to measure, too, remember. Other prices 19s. 6d., 23s. 6d., up to 40s.

Don't be sceptical. Realise that this is an advertising offer absolutely, and send us to-day merely a postcard for large range of patterns, measure chart, and fashion sheet. The materials will bear the closest scrutiny—then we fit you to your satisfaction or refund money. Why say more? Can we do more? Mention "John Bull" for when you see it there—IT IS SO.

H. THOMAS & Co., 142, Gray's Inn Rd., London, W.C.

IS YOUR HEART BAD?

Feel your pulse. Is it regular? Do you ever have Palpitation, Shortness of Breath, Skipping a Beat, Cold Hands or Feet, Dropsy, Pains under the Left Shoulder Blade, Trouble in lying on Left Side, Dizzy Spells, Drowsiness after Eating, Violent Starts in your Sleep, Fullness in the Throat, Neuralgia Around the Heart?

If you have any of these symptoms is it not time to correct them?

OXIEN has proved an almost infallible cure of functional Heart Disease and its many complications. Let us send you a FREE PACKET, that you may, WITHOUT COST, try its effects upon your trouble.

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FREE BOX—OXIEN.

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THE STRONGEST

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Miss SYBIL KEYMER, the Celebrated Violiniste, writes: "Since using Phosferine I am never troubled with headaches and listlessness. Phosferine enables me to do myself justice as a violiniste, preventing any of the unsteadiness of the muscle nerves, which is so harmful to tone and quality."—"Riversmere," Albany Road, Leighton Buzzard.

No other medicine has received such absolute proof of its extraordinary properties in restoring Shattered Constitutions, and in giving back to the prematurely aged New Life and Energy.

CAUTION

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The 2/9 size contains nearly four times the 1/1½ size.

OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS AND TELEGRAMS.

To the Right Hon. H. H. Asquith, Prime Minister.

Dear Premier,—Glancing a day or two ago at my daily paper, I read that you had been "transmogrified." My brain turned sick at the horrid word and I endured an agony of apprehension till I could ascertain the truth of things and satisfy myself that you had not fallen a victim to the assassin's dagger or the incendiary's bomb. Happily a moment sufficed to dispel my worst fears. You had had your hair cut—that was all. I breathed again.

But why part with those silvern locks which have lately crowned your brow and lent an air of senatorial dignity to your impassive features? Can it be a precautionary measure in view of the cat-like proclivities of certain of the shrieking sisterhood? Whatever it be, I fear the Tories will discover a sinister motive in the act. Already their lynx-eyed henchmen in the Press have noticed that Winston parts his hair in a new place. I warn you—you are observed.

John Bull.

To the Right Hon. Austen Chamberlain, P.C., M.P., House of Commons.

Dear Austen,—I see you have been celebrating your "jubilee," and I would add my felicitations to those which you have already received. You have passed far beyond the "young hopeful" stage, and although to some extent hampered by the dominant shadow of distinguished parentage, you have carved a niche for yourself in the Temple of Fame.

To-day the clouds loom low upon the horizon of your Party, and you and your colleagues wander in the wilderness a prey to weariness and grave misgiving. It is but a phase, and will pass. The British people are good sportsmen, and as long as politics remains a game they will see that you get your innings. By-and-bye we shall come to business and then you will come into your own. You have much of your father's shrewdness, and will automatically take your place in my first Business Government.

John Bull.

To Henry Joslin, Esq., J.P., Court House, Romford.

Dear J.P.,—As you were in the Chair on the occasion of the prosecution of certain defendants for using inflammable films in connection with a cinematograph exhibition on unlicensed premises, no doubt you can explain to me the attitude of the Bench in the case. Candidly, I do not understand it. I am not concerned with the facts, nor, as it happens, are you; you know as little as I of the truth of what was alleged against the defendants. On the day appointed for the hearing they were in Court to answer, but the Clerk of the County Council, who was to have prosecuted, failed to appear. Accommodating law and justice to the convenience of this absentee prosecutor, you adjourned the case for three weeks. At the next hearing the defendants again appeared to answer the summons, and again the Clerk of the Council did not appear. "It is rather a tall order," you said, in dismissing the case, "to ask the Bench, the solicitors, and everybody else to wait for Mr. Goold."

So far so good; but what amazes me on this announcement is that when the solicitor for the defendants asked for costs against the Council which had initiated this summons through their Clerk, the Bench refused the application. What sense of fairness is there in this, sir? There was no prosecutor. Therefore in law the defendants had not committed any offence, and they and their witnesses—who had been brought to court on two occasions and put to the cost of instructing a solicitor to defend a charge not only not proven, but not even formally made—are not allowed the smallest satisfaction or compensation. You treat them, sir, with contempt. This is all the more amazing because you know as well as I do that if the case had been proved you would have given costs against the defendants, probably without troubling the Clerk of the Essex County Council to ask for them. What, then, in the name of commonsense, can be the explanation of so palpable an injustice?

John Bull.

To Mr. Justice Joyce, Court of Chancery, London.

May it please your L'dship,—Whatever the result of the appeal against your decision in the matter of the Palladium queue, I have little doubt the consensus of opinion is that theatre and music hall queues, so far as they are an obstruction on the public pavement, are a nuisance, and, by forcing pedestrians on to the roadway in congested vehicular traffic, sometimes a positive danger. It is perhaps a legal point whether the theatres and the music halls are in fact responsible for the assembling of these queues. They may say, "We do not ask all these persons to collect in this way and are not in charge of the streets. They assemble of their own accord and, as a matter of fact, the police direct and control them. If there is any cause of action it is against any or all of the actual offenders and not against us." Conceivably, this argument will turn up on appeal, but apart from its being a technical point against your decision I am not concerned with it.

As I say, there is little question of the reality of the nuisance, be the responsibility where it may. Theatre managers and music-hall managers have no desire to get rid of queues—because they are an advertisement and save them trouble in arranging a system of seat booking and earlier doors to all parts of the house. If the effect of your lordship's judgment is to compel them to absorb their customers, quickly, instead of locking them out on a public footway as long as possible, it will have solved one, at any rate, of the problems of London street traffic.

John Bull.

To the Rev. Sidney Aurelius Jones, Rector of Newmarket, Flintshire.

Dear Rector,—I have just seen a report of your picturesque proceedings on a recent Sabbath evening, when you formally burnt a copy of the Welsh Church Bill in the presence of a crowd of your awestruck parishioners. Your solemn act of symbolic justice was carried out with every circumstance of impressiveness, and there can be no doubt that you were regarded by many of your flock as the human instrument of Divine wrath against the workers of iniquity.

Your subsequent address to the assembled company was a thing of beauty and of joy. You first spoke of your lofty desire for Christian unity and then went on to declare that "the phrase 'religious equality' was the latest snare forged on the anvil of the eternal pit to entrap those hard devil-fighters, the Welsh Nonconformists."

I am told that there was anger in your tone and stern resentment in your mien, but there can have been none in your heart, for did not you remark that "by love alone could the religious question in Wales be settled"?

They wrong you who call you bigot and depict you as a stranger to charity and brotherly love. Your ways are too high for them. They mistake righteousness for rancour, and purity for pique. Leave them in their ignorance. They are unworthy of your regard.

Peace, troubled heart!

John Bull.

To the Directors of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, Manchester.

Dear Friends,—Your attention having been called to the presence of mind displayed by a Mr. Ratcliffe, of Bury, in attracting the attention of the driver of a goods train on the night when a four-arm bracket-signal at Gigg Mills signal box was blown down during the gale, blocking the up and down line, I hear you have been so grateful for his services that you have asked his "kind acceptance" of a guinea "in recognition of his assistance." This is to say that for what he has received I hope your honours have made Mr. Ratcliffe truly thankful, and that the donation will not impose an excessive strain on the Company's financial resources.

John Bull.

McKenna, Home Secretary, London.

Regret delicious repasts which you set before Mrs. Pankhurst such shocking waste of money. First man I knew who gave such chickens to such ducks.

Bull.

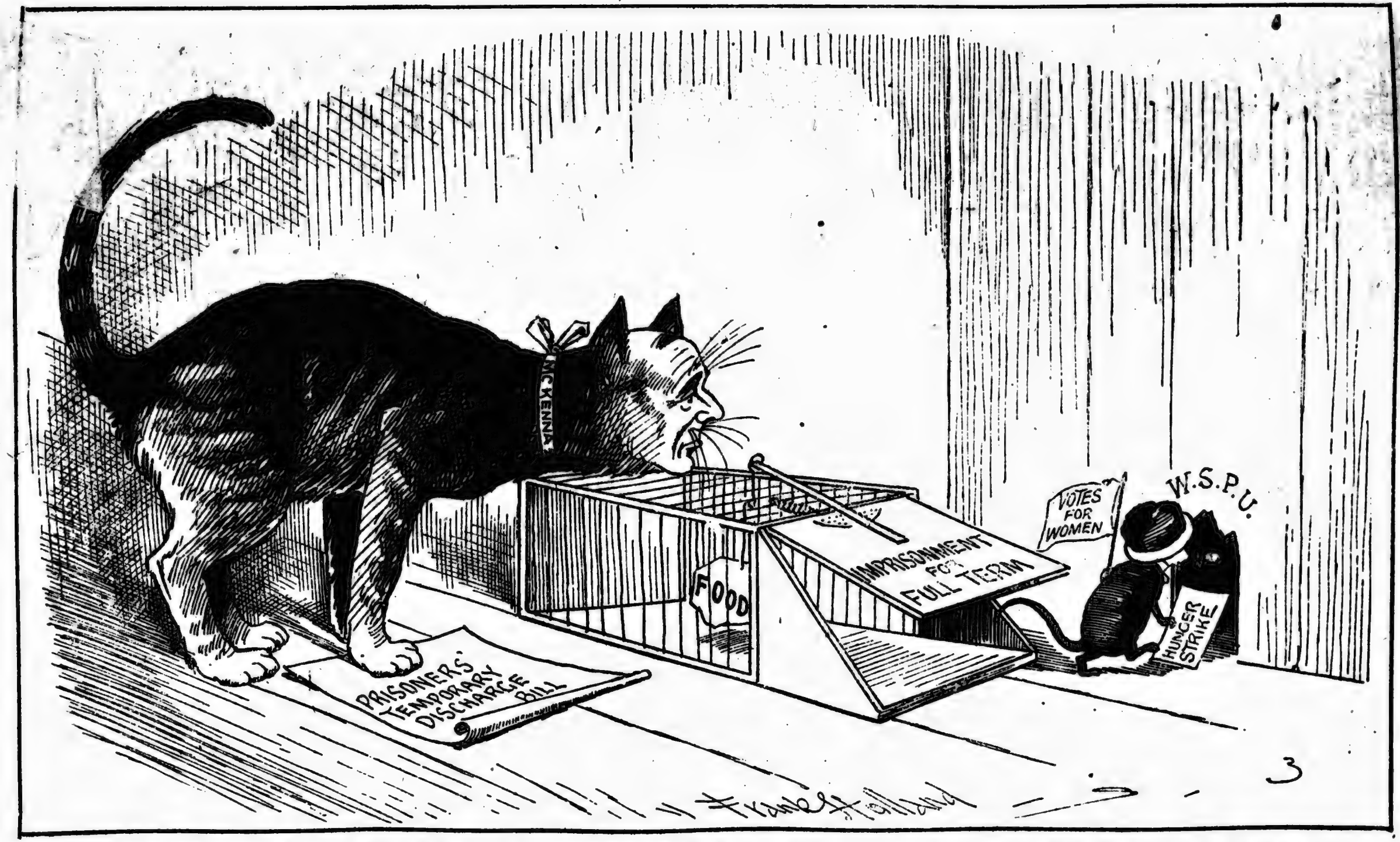
Patrick O'Brien, Geneva.

See that book of tickets of "John Bull" Derby Sweep is sent at once to Chief Inspector Newman, Bow Street, London.

Bull.

Increased Again! £500 for the best "Bullet" this week.

THE CAT AND THE MOUSE.



McKENNA (the Cat): "There goes another. I can get them in all right, but I can't keep them because they won't bite!"

LAW FOR THE MILLION.

HOW TO MAKE A WILL.

"Where there's a Will there's a Law suit," says an old tag. There is a vein of truth in the suggestion, but intestacy is a far more fruitful source of litigation than will-making. Every man who is possessed of disposable property should make a will without delay.

Many people postpone the task on account of fancied difficulties. The procedure is simplicity itself. Only in special cases is legal aid needful. It is neither necessary nor desirable that legal phraseology should be employed. The simplest and most direct language is the best. If legal terms are used they will be construed according to strict legal precedents, and as likely as not the testator's intentions will thereby be defeated. People who make their own wills should call a spade a spade and shun the high-sounding tautologies beloved of lawyers.

A will need be drawn in no special form, neither does it matter on what kind of paper it is written. The back of a sugar bag will do as well as the costliest parchment. No stamp is necessary, no seal, and no red tape.

The only formalities are these:—

The testator must sign his will.

Two witnesses must attest the testator's signature by signing their names below his.

The witnesses should see the testator sign and they should sign their names in his presence and in the presence of each other.

A man and his wife may witness a will. Though "one flesh" they are "twain" for the purposes of the Wills Act.

A witness may not receive a legacy under a will which he has attested. Any such gift will be absolutely null and void.

A will should appoint some person as executor, whose duty it will be to see that the will is properly proved and carried into effect at the testator's death. Only one executor need be named, although two are frequently appointed. Married women can now be appointed as executrices. *A testator may appoint his wife as sole executrix.* It is generally desirable, however, that a husband should name some trusted friend to assist his widow in the settlement of his affairs at his decease.

An executor is not debarred from receiving benefit under a will. A testator frequently bequeaths a legacy to his executor as a sort of payment for his trouble. An executor may witness a will, but in that case he can receive no legacy.

A man may will his property in any way he pleases. The law imposes no restrictions whatever, upon the disposal of his property after his death; if he is mean enough, he may disinherit his children and leave his wife penniless. Women may make wills in just the same way as men, except that a married woman can only dispose of property which she owns in her own right, and can make no testamentary disposition of moneys or goods entrusted to her by her husband.

A will cannot be altered by mere "scratchings out" or interlineations, even if they be initialled by the testator. All alterations must be signed by the testator and attested by witnesses in the same way as the original will. Such formal alterations are called "codicils." *A will may be cancelled by a codicil.* Codicils must be dated.

All wills are revoked by the marriage of the testator. Most people wish to make a new will when incurring marital obligations. If a testator does not desire to make a new will at his marriage, he may preserve his original will by a codicil properly signed, attested and dated.

Testators should observe the important rule that "all wills speak from the death of the testator," and not from the date at which they are made. Thus such phrases in a will as "all my freehold property" or "all my shares," etc., will pass all the property of the kind specified possessed by the testator at his death, *even though some of it may have been acquired since the date of his will.*

By following these simple directions any ordinarily intelligent person will be able to draw a valid and intelligible will.

LEGAL ADVICE.

(Postal Order for One Shilling must accompany EACH SEPARATE *enquiry.)*

Letters must be addressed to the Legal Editor.

E. E. (Westcliff).—A Post Office contributor under the Insurance Act has the amount of his own, his employer's and the State contributions placed to his credit. A small sum is deducted each year for administration expenses. When ill, he will be entitled to draw against his credit. When he has had the whole amount, he will still be entitled to medical and sanatorium benefit to the end of the year, or as much longer as the Insurance Committee determines. Post Office contributors are mostly those whom no Friendly Society will accept. You should join a good Approved Society, if possible, as you would obtain greater benefits—but steer clear of the Prudential one.

"Interested" (Manor Park).—No official record of the evidence given in High Court cases is available to the public, but you may find a report of the case in the *Times Law Reports* of the week following the hearing. It will cost you ninepence; not even Mr. Lloyd George could obtain it for fourpence.

W. H. (Cornwall).—With certain exceptions, a person who carries a gun must have a gun licence; if not produced on demand, there is the liability to a penalty of £10, but a policeman has no right to take the weapon forcibly away in such circumstances, even if the bearer were trespassing at the time. The police, however, often do what strictly they are not entitled to.

W. T. R. (Birmingham).—If goods pledged with a pawnbroker are stolen, he is not liable to replace them, provided he exercised ordinary care; if he exercised such care he is not only protected, but can even recover the loan and interest.

H. R. (Kilburn, N.W.) asks:—"If a man has a piece of ground given to him by the owner to do whatever he likes with, he fences it round, and has claimed it for over ten years, does it become his property?" No. He must be in possession 12 years before he has an absolute title.

Mrs. C. (New Cross).—If you can prove that your illness was attributable to the "ginger stout" you drank, you can sue the manufacturers for substantial damages. Perhaps, like the firm's representative, you will prefer whisky and soda in future. You had better instruct a respectable solicitor.

A. S. W. (Cheltenham).—The Liverpool United Gas Light Co. is not the only one by a long way that endeavours to "stick" to deposits. Gas companies take greater advantage of the poor than of the rich—the latter can usually look after themselves. Sue in the Liverpool County Court. Our Dormant Balances Bill will cover unclaimed deposits with such companies.

F. H. Y. (Royston) complains that his employers deducted the health contributions under the Insurance Act immediately it came into force, but allowed the unemployment contributions to run for six months, and then deducted the total sum of 5s. 5d. in a lump. He says it put most of the men to great inconvenience. He thinks employers should be compelled to make the deductions weekly, as a little is not missed. The masters are, however, within their rights. F. H. Y. and his comrades will no doubt make provision for such eventualities in future.

"Live and Let Live" (Birmingham).—If the Pension Committee have declined to make a grant to the old woman she is entitled to be heard by them within a month of their refusal. If she is dissatisfied with the final decision, she can apply to the Clerk for a form of appeal to the Local Government Board, but she must at the same time give notice to the Committee of her intention to appeal. Should it be, as you say, a case of petty spite, we hope you and those interested in the case will use every exertion to ensure that justice is done.

W. M. (Southsea).—Instead of writing to the Parish Priest of St. Michael's, Limerick, you should have applied by letter, enclosing 3s. 7d., to the General Register Office, Somerset House, London, for a copy of your husband's birth certificate. As for the 2s. 6d. you sent to the Parish Priest, we will presume he has popped it into the poor-box. But he might at least have acknowledged receipt.

"Petition" (Norfolk).—The Registrar of your local County Court will supply you with the necessary information as to how to file your petition in bankruptcy. It is certainly hard luck after working 18 hours a day for 27 years, but *nil desperandum!*

"Anxious Old Bullite" (Leicester).—In obtaining a situation by means of a false "character" you have committed a criminal offence, involving a penalty of £20 and costs, or imprisonment. So mum's the word!

W. H. (West Croydon).—The contractor cannot charge you more than the contracted price for building the house; but if he sued you, as the agreement was only verbal, it is doubtful which of you the Court would believe. You should endeavour to come to an amicable settlement.

Your Last Chance to Win our £1,000 Football Prize.

I CURE THE DEAF IN 30 DAYS.

MY NEW DISCOVERY CAUSES BIG STIR AMONGST EAR SPECIALISTS.

£500 Reward.

SENT ON 10 DAYS' FREE TRIAL.

ELMER SHIRLEY.

I WANT you to try my method of curing deafness and head noises. *I want you to try it at my expense.* Are you willing to prove you can be cured without it costing you a single penny? So sure am I of my cure that I will give you a free trial for 10 days. Can anything be fairer? I could fill this page with convincing *arguments* as to the merits of my cure. I could use adjective after adjective to describe what it can do, but I am sure that you will agree with me that all the argument in the world will not commence to convince you like the startling testimony of those whose testimonials appear on this page, and the hundreds of others which I have in my office.

I want you to carefully note that the letters which I reproduce contain the name and the address, as well as the photograph, of the person who writes me their grateful testimonial, and I will forfeit £500 to anyone who can prove that a single testimonial I publish is not true in every particular. I cured them and hundreds of others. I can cure you in your own home without discomfort or loss of time, and I send my treatment for 10 days' free trial *to prove it.* If you are deaf, I cannot see how you can fail to answer this announcement. I want every person in the kingdom who is suffering from deafness from any cause to write me and tell me so. You may say, "Yes, he has possibly cured hundreds of others, but I am afraid my case is hopeless." My answer to that is simply, "Fill in the coupon and get this 10 days' free treatment."

I particularly want to get in touch with those cases where electric batteries, artificial ear-drums, and so-called deaf cures have failed. If you are one of those who have tried every other remedy, take advantage of this unusual offer. If you have head noises, earache, ear discharges, catarrhal inflammation of the middle ear, or deafness of recent or long-standing, my method cures, and all I ask you to do is to prove every word I say in this announcement. I do not want you to be governed by any of the *arguments* I use to interest you in this new discovery of mine.

I want you to read the testimonials printed here. If any of these people live near you, ask them what I have done for them, and I am sure you will not hesitate one moment to fill in the coupon and commence this treatment yourself. No matter whether your case is one of recent or long standing, *write me to-day.* Surely, to hear again—to be cured of the most irritating disease of modern times—to be able to listen to the sermon, the play, the singer, or the prattle of the little ones, justifies you in doing so simple a thing as filling in the coupon on this page. Do not put it off a minute longer. Enjoy the same privileges of your friends and relatives whose hearing is perfect. All I ask you to do is simply to fill in the coupon, send a penny stamp to cover postage, and do it *now* before you forget it. If you put it off, you will only say to yourself every day, "Why didn't I fill in that coupon and send it to Elmer Shirley?" If you don't want to say that to-morrow and every day, write to me *to-day.* Address your letter, Elmer Shirley (Suite 807), 6, Great James Street, Bedford Row, London, W.C.

Miss F. SEDGWICK,
Fern Cottage, New Brinsley, Notts, writes, March 6th, 1913: "After being Deaf for nearly 28 years, I am pleased to say that I am a lot better. The head noises have entirely gone, and I have not had one bilious headache since I commenced your 'Shirley' treatment. I cannot thank you enough."

Mstr. STANLEY BINGHAM,
30, Newland Road, Southend-on-Sea, writes, March 3rd, 1913:—"After having been deaf since I was four months old, I am now completely cured by the 'Shirley System.' The discharge has also ceased. I should have written before only I wanted to see if the cure was permanent."

Mrs. J. W. COOK,
14, Oakland Street, Warrington, writes, Jan. 28th, 1913: "For 16 years I was partially deaf, and suffered very acutely with head noises and headaches. The first application of the 'Shirley System' relieved me, on the third day I could hear the clock tick, and in a month was completely cured."

Mr. P. DUNPHY,
139, James's Street, Dublin, writes, January 2nd, 1913:—"I have great pleasure in stating that after using the 'Shirley System' for one week my Deafness and head noises are quite cured. I may say I had suffered for twelve months. I congratulate you on the wonderful success of your treatment."

Mr. W. ALMOND,
61, Church Street, Widnes, writes, March 3rd, 1913:—"After suffering for four years with Head Noises, I am very pleased to say that, thanks to the 'Shirley System' I am quite cured, although mine was a very obstinate case. I thank you for your kind attention to my case."

Mrs. D. FUNSTON,
Carntressy, Pettigo, Co. Donegal, writes, Feb. 10th, 1913:—"I am happy to say my ears were quite cured in one week. I cannot thank you sufficiently for your care in my case. I only wish that all sufferers from Deafness would try your 'Shirley System' of treatment and be cured."

Miss K. CALLADINE,
4, Pean Street, Swindon, Wilts, writes, Jan. 22nd, 1913: "I have been under your treatment for deafness for one month, and can now hear as well as anybody. Before adopting the 'Shirley System' I had been deaf for 14 years, and am grateful for the satisfactory results."

CUT OUT AND POST THIS FREE COUPON —NOW!

Date.....

ELMER SHIRLEY
(Suite 807), 6, Great James Street,
Bedford Row, London, W.C.

I wish to avail myself of your 10-day free trial offer, and enclose 1d. stamp to cover postage.

Name .....

Address .....

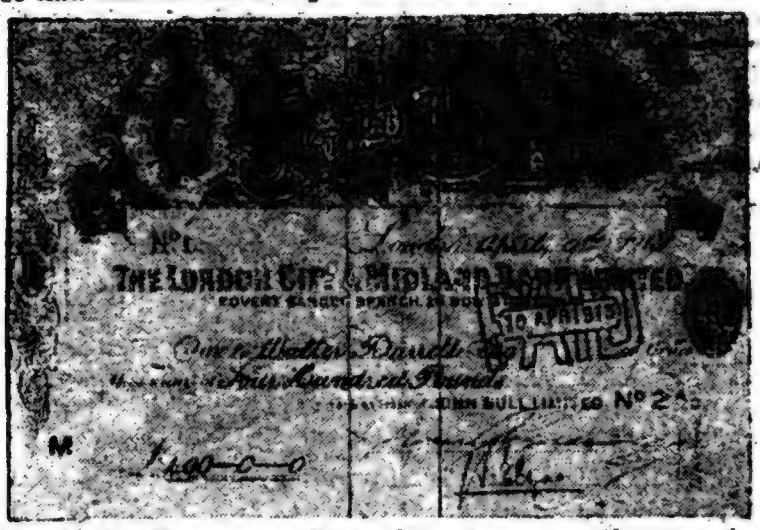
.....

(*Sanalak Ltd.*)

OUR 25TH "BULLETS" COMPETITION.

A LONDON MAN TELLS HOW TO WIN FIRST PRIZE.

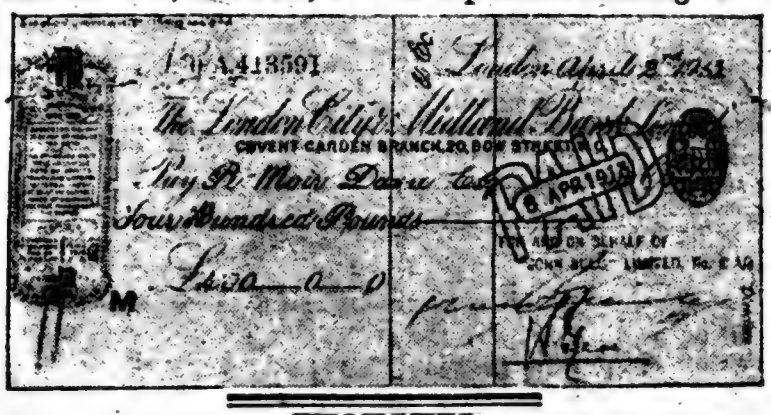
Mr. W. Barret, of 27, Cambetta Street, Queen's Road, Lavender Hill, S.W., writes us in high spirits, acknowledging the cheque for the First Prize of £400. The receipt of such an amount is unparalleled in Mr. Barret's uneventful career of 34 years, except it be by the arrival of a bonny boy two years ago. The happy winner holds a minor appointment in a Public Department—though the swelling of his chest doubtless now makes him feel equal to a major one—the wages of which are supplemented by the running of a small business chiefly conducted by his wife. He had entered our competition six times only. As he says,



"Undoubtedly many efforts do not convey the meaning of the sender in a mere glance, but often require a second mind to discern." And it is his appreciation of the fact that our method of judging ensures this careful double examination which induced him to become a competitor. It is interesting to learn that the successful effort was evolved without the aid of any other person. He adopts the ingenious—and evidently paying—method of compiling a list of stock phrases, which he keeps until the examples published admit of their adoption—though it, of course, entails study or inspiration. His tip to would-be imitators is: Try some simple, sentimental home-truth on the lines of his winning effort.

The above cheque will be exhibited in the window of Mr. W. E. Noon's news agency, 7, Queen's Road, Lavender Hill, until April 18th, and from then until April 22nd in that of Mr. W. W. Harris, 153, Lavender Hill.

It will be remembered that, owing to delay in the return of the original cheque for £400 awarded to Mr. Davie in our 24th Competition, we were unable last week to reproduce it. We, therefore, now have pleasure in doing so.

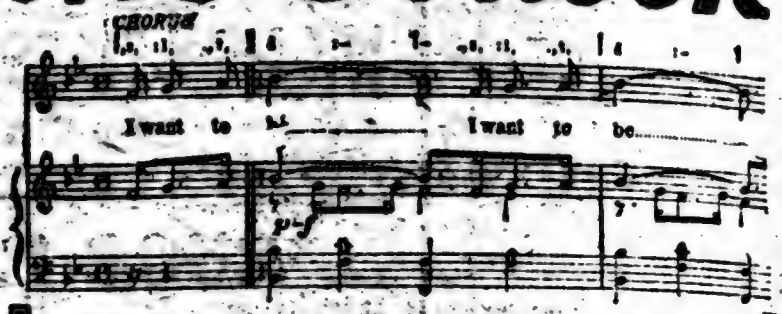

No A413591
London April 2nd 1913
The London City & Midland Bank Limited
COVENT GARDEN BRANCH, 20 BOW STREET W.C.
Pay R. Mair Davie or Order
Four Hundred Pounds
8 APR 1913
£400—0—0

THOUGHTS.

I thought I saw a regiment
Parading in the Strand;
I looked again, and found it was
A super-German band.
"Dear me!" I said, and rubbed my eyes,
"This *is* a happy land."

I thought I saw a bank account
As fat as any swine;
I looked again, and found it was
Some butcher's bills of mine.
"I'll stand no more of this," said I;
"That Lloyd George must resign!"

LEOPOLD SIERO.

The Song of the Season

I WANT TO BE IN DIXIE.

WORDS & MUSIC.

SEE THIS WEEK'S

Reynolds's Newspaper

the paper with
. all the best .
. . songs . .

Avoid Disappointment.

Order your copy from your News-agent to-day.

GRAVES RENOWNED WATCHES

5/-

The Graves English Lever is the finest Watch Offer in the World.

Everything which goes to the making of a perfectly satisfactory & reliable Watch is included in this magnificent English Watchmaking Masterpiece. Sterling Silver or Rolled Gold Cases, as preferred. Keyless or Keywind movement, Chronometer Balance, Jewelled Escapement, and every modern improvement. For a payment of 5/- Now, we deliver this superb English Lever Watch, strictly subject to your approval, and if considered quite satisfactory, balance is payable in 9 monthly payments of 5/-

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE FREE. Contains every style of Ladies & Gent's Watches, lovely 18-ct Gold Engagement and Dress Rings, set with Diamonds, Rubies, Emeralds, Sapphires, Pearls, & other precious stones, on Easy Monthly Terms or 2/- in £ Discount Cash with Order.

J. G. GRAVES Ltd. SHEFFIELD

THE GRAVES WAREHOUSES

GRAVES 2-GUINEA SUITS

It is a mistake to assume that a really smart, gentlemanly and serviceable Suit is not obtainable at a moderate figure. We make a speciality of well cut, well tailored, and well finished Suits for business men, to whom appearance is of great moment, at the remarkably low price of 42/-

WE DELIVER your Suit from the material of your . . choice, made exactly to your measures, for only 6/- with order, and if the suit is found to be in every respect entirely to your satisfaction after being tried on, the balance is payable by six monthly payments of 6/-

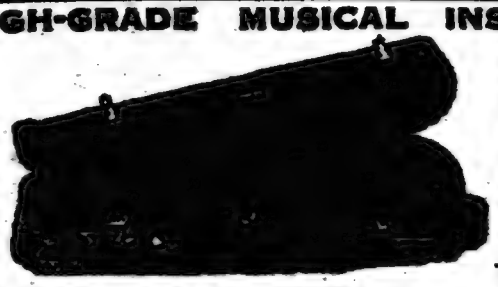
6/- with Order

IT WILL PAY YOU to look into this unusual Clothing proposal. It only needs a post card sent to-day to secure per return our full range of cloth samples which we are making up at 42/- and 35/- and including patterns of TWEEDS, CHEVIOTS, WORSTED SERGES, PLAIN BLACK AND BLUE VICUNAS, & HARDWEARING YORKSHIRE SUITINGS. With the actual materials in your hands you can form your own unprejudiced opinion of the quality of the cloths and tastefulness of the designs, and if you decide to entrust us with a trial order, our fair and equitable conditions guarantee you protection against risk of any disappointment

GRAVES HIGH-GRADE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

Complete Violin Outfit,

Comprising good Violin, full lined Case with fastenings, good bow, resin and an extra set of strings. Delivered Carriage Paid to approved orders for 3/- with order, the balance being payable in equal monthly payments only after approval in your own home. 2/- in £ Cash Discount.



J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD.

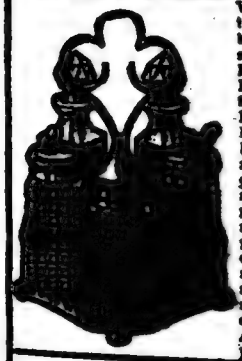
WRITE FOR CATALOGUE. All Music Lovers should send a post card for our new Catalogue which contains a remarkably large and varied selection of Musical Instruments: Violins, Violin Outfits, Cases, Bows, Auto & Zither Harps, Mandolines, Banjos, Concertinas, Melodeons, Flutes, Piccolos, Clarionets, and all kinds of Brass Instruments, Pianos, Organs etc., etc. Not the least noticeable feature of this catalogue is the extreme moderation of prices. All instruments supplied on Easy Terms.

GRAVES TOOLS

FOR ALL TRADES. On receipt of a Post Card we will send free per return our new illustrated Catalogue of Genuine Sheffield Tools for all Trades. This practical book illustrates and describes all the standard makes of Tools at rock bottom prices & puts the buyer in the best market for reliable Tools, whether required for your Trade or for Household or Garden use. Write to-day for Catalogue T

J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD.

GRAVES PLATE



Write to-day for illustrated Catalogue of the most beautiful and artistic examples of Silverware and Electro-plate; Tea Services Butter Dishes, Cake Stands, Salad Bowls, Egg Frames, Toast Racks, Fish Eaters, Jam Spoons, Fruit Knives, Cheese Dishes, and an enormous variety of charming novelties suitable for presents. All goods marked at favourable prices, and are supplied to approved orders on receipt of a small payment with order, and balance payable in equal monthly payments, after delivery and inspection. Ask for Catalogue M

J. G. GRAVES Ltd, Sheffield

GRAVES CLOCKS

Our handsomely illustrated Book displays the finest collection of clocks ever brought together between the covers of one catalogue, and fully describes reliable and inexpensive clocks for the Kitchen, Dining Room, Drawing Room, Bedroom, in fact Clocks for every purpose. All clocks are delivered insured and carriage paid to approved orders on receipt of small payment. Balance payable in monthly payments after full test and approval in your own home, or we allow a liberal Discount to be deducted if the cash is sent with order.

J. G. GRAVES LTD,
SHEFFIELD.

GRAVES BEDSTEADS

In your own interest you should send a Post Card to-day for our Handsomely Illustrated Catalogue of Metal and Wood Bedsteads, of artistic design and hygienic construction. We deliver any Bedstead you select from our book, insured and carriage paid to your nearest railway station, on receipt of small payment with order. The balance to be completed in monthly payments if you are entirely satisfied with the Bedstead after the fullest examination & approval in your own home. Our Catalogue is printed in colours & contains the widest up-to-date choice of every type of bedstead, all marked at the keenest competitive prices. Will save you pounds.

5/- NOW

J. G. GRAVES LTD.
SHEFFIELD.

GRAVES GRAMOPHONES

THIS HANDSOME FULL-TONED GRAMOPHONE with TEN superb 10in Disc Record Selections delivered and Carriage Paid to all approved orders for 5/- NOW, and balance in Nine Monthly Payments of 5/- each. The Cabinet is of finely marked Dark Oak, brilliantly polished & embellished with a tasteful Art Metal Panel. Powerful Silent Steel Motor, Nickel Plated Taper Tone Arm, 10in Turntable, large 14in Seamless Sound Horn of graceful design. Highly sensitive reversing Sound Reproducer, which reproduces Full Military Band Selections with all their original brilliance, & the delicate variations of the solo artiste's voice.

5/- with Order.

COMPLETE CATALOGUE POST FREE. Our handsomely produced Gramophone Guide interestingly gives all the newest facts about these fascinating instruments, and fully illustrates and describes the newest models, all of which are supplied on approval on convenient Easy Monthly Payment Terms or 2/- in the £ Discount Cash with order.

IMPORTANT. Write for our Extraordinary Monthly Payment Offer of High-grade Disc Records. Most extensive & interesting repertoire of 4000 Selections post free.

J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD.

GRAVES SMART PRAMS

WRITE FOR ART CATALOGUE FREE

7/6 NOW

This interesting Book fully illustrates and describes all the latest and best designs in Mail Carts and Baby Carriages all at challenging prices and easy monthly terms. A Post Card is all that is necessary.

J. G. GRAVES LTD,
SHEFFIELD.

GRAVES RELIABLE FOOTWEAR

A copy of our latest Catalogue of high-grade Footwear for Men, Women, and Children should be in every home. This Book is sumptuously illustrated with photographs taken direct from an extensive selection of Boots and Shoes of the very finest quality, which are made on the latest hygienic principles, guaranteed to give absolute satisfaction in wear, fit and finish, and supplied on Easy Monthly Payment Terms or liberal Discount is allowed for Cash with Order.

J. G. GRAVES LTD. SHEFFIELD

GRAVES 'BRITANNIC' VACUUM CLEANER

DO YOU KNOW that the household dust literally teems and swarms with disease-carrying Bacteria and deadly microbes, which perpetuate chronic ill-health? Old style brush-and-duster methods merely stir up the dust to impregnate the atmosphere over and over again. Real relief from the dust nuisance, and the discomfort and endless labour which old style dust-fighting methods involve, is only to be got by installing a practical, up-to-date Household Vacuum Cleaner. The Graves 'Britannic' Dust Extractor embodies the experience of Ten Years of progressive development in Vacuum Cleaner construction; it is in every respect a reliable and efficient machine, and absolutely the greatest household boon of the age. Without moving anything, it sucks the dust out of your Carpets, Curtains, Cushions, Bedding, Furniture, and cleanses and purifies everything it operates upon.

WE DELIVER the Graves (MODEL A) Britannic Vacuum Dust Extractor with all accessories carriage paid to approved orders for 6/- NOW. We invite you to thoroughly test the machine in your own home, and if entirely and completely satisfied, the balance may be paid by twelve monthly postal payments of 6/- It is important to understand that you are under no obligation whatever to keep the machine unless you are fully satisfied after full trial, and convinced of its value and ability. Failing this we will immediately refund your money in full, without any discussion whatever, and pay the return carriage charges on the machine.

6/- with order

SPECIFICATION The Graves Vacuum Cleaner (MODEL A) weighs only 18lbs, is conveniently moved from room to room, and easily and comfortably operated by one person. **The Operating Lever** and other fitments are detachable from the body of the machine, which when out of use is only 16ins in height, and consequently occupies but very little room, and it can be easily accommodated upon a shelf of the usual width, or in an ordinary cupboard. **The Machine Body** is substantially constructed of well-seasoned timber, beautifully polished and finished. Selected English Tanned Leather is used for the bellows work, the cleaning implements are of polished aluminium, and the extension arm of steel tubing is heavily plated.

WRITE FOR CATALOGUE A Post Card will bring per return our handsomely Illustrated Explanatory Catalogue, showing a full range of **Vacuum Cleaning Apparatus**, suitable for Household, Boarding Establishment, and Hotel use. Full particulars of this hygienic labour-saving invention are given in a clear & interesting manner, and convenient Easy Monthly Payment Terms are quoted for every model. 2/- in £ Cash Discount.

J. G. GRAVES Ltd. SHEFFIELD.

John Bull's Letter Bag.

[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when writing regarding previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag," and* ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The EDITOR *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

CORRESPONDENTS desiring INFORMATION *should place their questions in* CONCISE *form and refrain from sending* VOLUMINOUS DOCUMENTS, *at any rate until asked for them. The Editor is quite unable to devote the time necessary for perusing and considering the scores of folios which correspondents sometimes send.*

For Financial and Insurance Replies, see page 576.
For Sporting Replies, see page 580.

J. E. (Crickhowell) AND OTHERS.—We know nothing whatever of the "Open Letter from John Bull" recently issued to the electors of the Crickhowell Union.

A. G. C. (Colchester).—No more about kosher meat for several moons.

R. L. (Galt., Ont.).—So you have been going without your overcoat this winter, have you? Hope you haven't caught a cold.

"A FEW ADMIRERS" (Blackheath).—We cannot inform you whether Miss Effie Mann, who plays in Mr. George Edwardes' "Dollar Princess" Company, was once a typist. If you are curious, why not write to the lady and ask her? As a matter of fact, she is the daughter of a well-known "agitator."

J. I. (Eastbourne).—If the man connected with the Directory Co. has obtained board and lodging from you under false pretences and is "doing the same at other places," inform the police.

"NEMO" (*In Arduis Fidelis*).—The Bishop of London's story of his miraculous healing of the little Knightsbridge girl did not escape our notice. Are you a new reader?

C. H. L. (Hull).—We are glad to hear that our recent remarks concerning Mr. Jelf, Magistrate, of Hamilton, Ont., had the desired effect, and that he had the grace to apologise. As he has done this we do not desire to rub it in further.

W. A. H. (Poplar).—Certainly, the 180,000 men included in the National Union of Railwaymen form part of the general public, but, whatever their grievances may be, 180,000 have no right to jeopardise the safety, comfort and convenience of 40 millions, without due warning.

A. L. (Harrogate) asks us to read a paper he has written on the "Incrustation in Water Supply Pipes." A paper on the "Incrustation in Old Port Wine Bottles" would interest us far more.

"A WORKER" (Belfast) suggests that the Suffragettes should start a campaign against the Insurance Act. Well, let them begin by refusing the Maternity Benefit.

R. C. C. (Norwich) declares that he is with us in his partiality for the split "Polly." He has made a mistake. We don't know the lady. Does she reside in Norwich, where the mustard comes from?

G. H. (Shagari) refers to the statement of "One of the Bulls," who wrote from Headlands, Rhodesia, to the effect that well-born and well-educated Englishmen, gentlemen's sons, are married to black women, and says "He is a blasted liar." We are glad to hear it.

J. H. D. (Nottingham).—As you dispute the 7s. 9d. balance, you are certainly entitled to demand a clear statement of account from D. Butcher, of Derby Road, Nottingham.

J. M. (Hyde Park).—"There ought to be an Act passed preventing lawyers standing as candidates for Parliament." Sorry, imposs.

G. W. (Manitoba) expresses very forcibly his opinion of the Rev. Sparrow, who recently commented adversely upon the morals of English girls in Canada. He asks, "What about the poor girls who are sent out by these so-called religious bodies to farms, away from help, where often a widower or bachelor lives? What chance has a poor girl got of upholding her honour?" That's a poser for the Rev. Sparrow to peck at.

M. L. (Pontefract).—Really, you ought to know that your M.P., Mr. Handel Booth, is not a relation of the composer of the *Messiah*. Spread this information quickly in the constituency or somebody will presently be asking us whether he is any relation to the author of the Salvation Army.

"BRIXTONITE."—Your proposition that "the knowledge that muscular wardresses armed with birchrods were ready to act as a last resort would work wonders" with hunger-striking suffragettes is not discussable by us.

J. W. W. (Nottingham).—How should we know "who is that Cripple Man for Life that was Caused throu that Bussling Neglet of that Depr Manager and What Was the Report of His Caise on fev 21 1013"? You must take us for Sherlock Holmes.

"BRIGADER" (Woking).—There have been many burglaries in Woking, but none at public-houses, as the police are busy watching them. Householders your way are supposed to look after their own burglars.

"LAMBETH" (Lambeth).—Yes, we are aware that the Rev. A. H. Howe-Browne prosecuted a young man in the Lambeth police-court for asking the rev. gent. for his fare to Coventry. We also noted that the Rev. A. H. Howe-Browne was well snubbed by the magistrate, who told him that a man was as much entitled to ask another for his fare to Coventry as the other had to refuse him.

"BEEF" (Eccles).—It is difficult to credit that putrid meat is cooked for the inmates of the workhouse, and that "some time ago the Guardians ordered some meat to be given to the pigs as being unfit for human consumption; it was put on a heap of refuse, but immediately the Guardians had gone it was taken off, cooked and eaten by the inmates." Are you in a position to prove your allegations?

F. A. (Congleton).—What do you want to bother about the Calcutta Derby Sweep for, when you have the opportunity to take part in the JOHN BULL Derby Sweepstake? You cannot get a ticket for the former unless you are a member of the Calcutta Turf Club. For the latter, write to Patrick O'Brien, Geneva, Switzerland.

A. E. G. (Birmingham).—You ask us to warn small shopkeepers, etc., "against a traveller who represents himself as being connected with the Magic Novelty Co., Houndsditch, London, whose name is printed on the show-cards of magic tablets for copying pictures out of newspapers, and who endorses back of card that 'if not sold in 14 days money is returned,'" as you have written to the firm and your letter has been returned "Not Known."

"M.U.SICK" (Edmonton) is a musician, and is desirous o joining a Territorial band, but does not know where to apply. He should write the Secretary, Territorial Association, Craig Court, Whitehall, mentioning whether he performs on a jew's harp or a tin whistle.

"DOUBTFUL" (Brixton).—Send your inquiry to *Mary Bull*. She deals with such subjects as marriage etiquette. We are too busy.

"IRO BUSINESS GOVERNMENT" (Clasgow) refers to the evidence of Mr. Lawson and Mr. Edward Oliver given before the Marconi Contract Inquiry Committee, and asks, "Where will these amateur journalists go to?" He suggests that they are provided for in Rev. xxi—8. We must turn up the verse.

H. T. (Finsbury Park), referring to our recent adverse criticism of a film, "At the Foot of the Scaffold," shown in one of Pyke's picture theatres, is of the opinion that drawing attention to such things merely increases public curiosity. Not merely." It also arouses the disgust of decent-minded people, and warns them what to avoid.

G. W. T. (Coventry) desires us to supply him with the present address of Mrs. Maybrick, as he wishes to correspond with her. We must decline. Mrs. Maybrick has had quite enough trouble as it is.

E. E. B. (Weymouth).—If you have been punished by the Hon. Sec. of the Dorset Football Association for speaking the truth, you are a martyr. You will, however, understand that we cannot father your allegations [illegible] statement.

"Bullets" Prizes Increased. 500 additional Cash Prizes of 5

D. E. J. (Chideock).—The Shops Act may be "rotten," but it is *un fait accompli*—which is bad French for "We can't help it."

G. G. (Co. Durham).—We have already warned our readers against having any dealings with the Psycho Success Club, now of 262, Westminster Bridge Road. It is a Yankee swindle.

D. F. O'M. (Ballybunion).—We cannot understand your communication respecting the Imperial Boot Co., of Leicester. You speak of two pairs of boots costing 11*2*s. Only a person suffering from a bally *bad* bunion would be justified in paying so much for his trotter cases. Phwat's the manin' av ut all at all?

W. W. (Hull).—We note that a poster recently appeared outside the Hull "Theatre de Luxe" Picture Palace bearing the words:—

"Enormous Success of Satan.
The Treat of a Lifetime."

It seems somehow to fit in with Hull.

J. R. de C. (Hampstead).—We can quite believe that the algæ which got into the drinking water in some districts of London gave it a combined flavour of cod liver oil and petrol; but they won't hurt you. Don't baccili.

"Wuffy" (Liverpool).—If your wife sent up 193 wrappers for Watson's Soap Competition and "complied with all the rules," write a letter of complaint to the firm. They may not have received the parcel.

H. H. (Woolwich).—Now, how can we possibly tell you why the proprietors of Edwards' Harlene Hair Restorer do not publish with their advertisements a photograph of Mr. Edwards showing what it has, or hasn't, done for him?

C. P. (King's Cross).—As Groom's "Cripplegate" is supposed to be a charity, your statement that the girls working there are paid 3d. a gross for making Alexandra roses startles us.

J. D. B. (North Shields).—So you also have received a letter from that audacious cadging Gold Coast nigger, Amuah, have you? If a tenth of the people he writes to send him one-twentieth of what he asks, he will soon have sufficient goods to start a shop.

E. B. C. D. (Macclesfield).—Glad there wasn't a breach of the peace when the suffragettes held a meeting in one room of your Town Hall while the Watch Committee held a meeting in another.

W. P. (Worcester).—Mr. Justice Ridley was, of course, within his rights in refusing to order the "white slaver" to be flogged. It was forseen when the Act was passed that some judges would order the cat and some would not.

C. W. S. (Gateshead).—Have nothing whatever to do with the New Vita Light Restorer. It is one of many mechanical quackeries for which the New Vita Health Association, Exchange Buildings, Southwark, is notorious.

W. H. S. (Montreal).—We have carefully considered the question of an Overseas "Bullets" Competition, but the world outside this tight little island is a big place. The distances are not only great, but varied, and a time-limit which would suit one overseas reader would not suit another. This is our difficulty.

J. R. C. (Catford).—If De Witts' pills dissolved in water will make such a splendid green ink, why not use them for that purpose?

"Curious" (Manchester).—Why the firm should advertise in the Manchester *Evening News* for a youth "(one partly crippled preferred) to work lift," we do not know; at least, not unless it is to advertise the lift.

H. H. (Birmingham).—We have little doubt that the formula, "I hereby declare at this time of entering the employment of Messrs. Chamberlain, King and Jones, Ltd., that I have never made a claim upon any previous employers for the disease of lead poisoning contracted while in their service," etc., has been suggested to them by their insurance company.

J. P. (Winsford).—We agree with much of what you say regarding S. Stubbs, sentenced at Manchester to three years' penal servitude for manslaughter, due to being drunk whilst in charge of a motor-car. The fact that the prisoner is a wealthy man did not prejudice Mr. Justice Bailhache in his favour. However, on appeal, the sentence has been reduced to twelve months'.

H. L. (Old Ford).—We see no objection to school children being medically examined by a competent official when there is any suspicion of disease. It is not only in the interest of the child but also of the schoolmates. On what do you base your objection?

G. S. (Vancouver) writes: "A working man is treated worse than a dog out here." But they have not succeeded in muzzling "G. S.," anyway.

W. T. (Hyde).—Hy. Riley and Co. (the Lancashire Clothing Club), like the rest of the credit drapers who promise to send wonderful bales of goods on receipt of a small deposit and the balance in monthly instalments, should be utterly ignored.

S. J. M. (S. Australia) advises all who are "filling a living" in England to think twice before emigrating to Australia. From the accounts we receive of the industrial condition of the Commonwealth, we are inclined to go further and advise them not to think about it at all.

Rev. R. Aubrey Aitken (North Walsham).—We note that the third word of the following sentence which appeared recently in your Parish Magazine, to wit, "Will any *rich* people who desire private communion be good enough to let the vicar know," is a misprint for "sick." Whilst accepting your disclaimer without hesitation, we must confess that it seems to us to make very good sense.

W. J. (Ware).—You "think that the Master of the workhouse at Ware is allowed to do anything he likes and not as a paid servant of the ratepayers.' Pour your wrath into the ears of the Guardians.

A. B. (Manor Park) describes the last hand of a game of single-handed five-card cribbage, and wants to know who won. "A" had pegged 66. "B" 56. "A's" crib. Six of spades turn up. "B" plays 8 of Clubs; "A," 4 of Clubs; "B," 7 of Hearts; "A" 3 of Hearts; "B," 7 of Spades; "A," Ace of Spades, being the last card. Consequently "A" scores one hole and pegs out, the winner.

C. F. (Kingston-on-Thames).—We do not deal in innuendoes and veiled charges. If you know anything concerning a Walton-on-the-Thames constable that it would be in the public interest to expose, send us full particulars, in confidence, or for ever after hold your peace.

W. S. (Cardiff) objects to our recent remarks concerning the use of Trading Stamps by retail shop-keepers. The reason is plain. He uses them himself. But that is no reason why we should alter *our* opinion that it is an unfair and objectionable method of doing business. And we know what we are talking about.

H. F. (Twickenham), for the information of our recent correspondent, "A. E. S." (Cardiff), is kind enough to inform us that "Thima" is identical with Sliema, a suburb of Valetta, Malta. Now all we want to know is how to pronounce it.

M. M. (Paddington).—Having been induced to buy a so-called gold bracelet for 11s. 6d., which turns out to be worth less than a shilling, you should apply at the nearest police-court for a summons against the jeweller for obtaining money under false pretences. If you are not prepared to do this, console yourself with the thought that although your bracelet is not gold, experience is a jewel.

J. M. (Whitechapel).—You have no one but yourself to blame. You should have got your medical card signed immediately you received it, and you would not then have had to pay 1s. 6d. for treatment of your poisoned finger.

Miss L. C. (Plymouth) has been good enough to send us the compliments of the season in rhyme, one verse of which we will venture to reprint:—

Now, Mr. John Bull, your tail I must pull,
And for once I am going to risk it;
For witty and bright, for honour and right,
You yourself, Sir John Bull, take the biscuit.

Our tail wags furiously in acknowledgment.

M. E. B. (Victoria, Australia).—It is obviously impossible for us to cable cash out to disappointed emigrants who have been deceived into thinking Australia is a second Eldorado, find it is not, and wish to get back to England. What a pity you did not heed our warnings and remain at home.

E. R. M. (Motherwell) informs us that he instructed the Salvation Army shipping agent at Glasgow to cable £17 10s. to a friend in Vancouver to enable her to return home. The "Army" representative in Vancouver failed to notify the friend, with the result that she missed the boat. The "Army" authorities cannot give any satisfactory explanation of their blunder, but are now demanding £1 for cable expenses. In the circumstances, we should let them try the efficacy of prayer in obtaining it.

N. V. T. (Skipton).—Your objection to automatic postage-stamp machines being placed in the streets strikes us as puerile. Surely it would be just as easy to insert "dud" coins in the slot with the machine inside the post-office. The only reasonable objection to such street machines is the militant suffragette, and that, we hope, is a passing one.

"Kopenick" (London, W.C.).—You should address your inquiry to the German Ambassador, as to the exact date when one Vogt "took in" the mayor of a certain German town, and made the whole civilized world roar with laughter, by assuming the style of "Captain Kopenick." We have no wish to annoy our dear German friends by reviving the mirthful incident.

"Overseas John Bullite" (Vancouver, B.C.).—As you say you think well of us on the whole, we don't mind saying we think well of you in parts.

(A large number of replies are held over.)

Our Final Football Coupon appears on page ii. of Cover. Your Last Chance.

Bull's Eyes.

Notes of Interrogation :—

Will the cinema film fight "flicker" out?
Have you seen that "Opportunity" on page 571?
What does Lloyd George think of "differences"?
Has John Burns "got home" with the Milk at last?
Hadn't the militant suffragist lost her "head" already?
Isn't "good old wheeze" another definition of "gag"?
Isn't the Plural Voting Bill rather a singular measure?
Will the fusion of the railwaymen's unions prevent confusion?
Isn't Germany prepared to "go to any heights" in aviation?
Aren't they calling them the "Putrid-way-o" atrocities now?
Wouldn't the working man find a tax on paraffin "no light" matter?
Doesn't "Dignity and Impudence" express the Montenegrin situation?
Wasn't the Luneville affair a nasty "come-down" for Germany?
Don't the Lancashire weavers know the value of the Socialist "yarns"?

* * *

Muddled Musings :—

1.—A woman forgives much to a man who can love well.

2.—The tail of a mouse is one of the conclusions a woman will jump at.

3.—A ring on the hand is worth two at the door.

4.—A woman never puts off till to-morrow, what she can say to-day.

5.—Every man is more or less a hypocrite, except when alone with himself.

6.—Aeroplanes are now being used for making trips to castles in the air.

7.—He is a clever man who can describe the difference between a woman's "Yes" and "No."

8.—A monologue is a conversation a woman carries on with her husband.

9.—Blessings have the reputation of coming in disguise, largely because the average man doesn't know what's good for him.

10.—A reformer's idea of the first step toward saving the country is getting a good job.

11.—Not until good advice can be taken in capsules will some of us be able to swallow it with any degree of comfort.

12.—If money does really talk, as they say, it would be interesting to know whether its accent is "Hebrew" or "Scotch."

* * *

Her foot is one of the things that a woman never makes the most of.

* * *

Separated milk is being used for making piano keys. This is striking a new note.

* * *

The teashop girls are threatening to strike. Somebody must have been stirring them up.

* * *

"Always keep a good cigar," we read. To which we add, "and give away a bad one."

* * *

A co-operative cheese factory has been opened at Llandilo. No doubt it will make its whey.

* * *

Servia takes only half a barrel of British beer. She might as well go the whole hogshead.

* * *

A book called "How to Form a Company" has been published. It should be full of "promise."

* * *

Miss Sandow has gone upon the stage. If she takes after papa, she should prove a powerful actress.

* * *

The rector who publicly burned the Welsh Church Bill was evidently filled with a consuming hatred of it.

* * *

The Labour Members are demanding a minimum wage of thirty shillings per week. Some of them are worth it.

* * *

Mr. Healy doesn't like the Stock Exchange ticker in the House of Commons. It's the red-tape machine we object to.

* * *

"Standing for his trial," says Mr. Swift MacNeill, is not English. No, most defendants have to take it "lying down."

* * *

The Bishop of Manchester says they have no use for fancy curates. Which is why they don't offer fancy prices, we presume.

* * *

After the Pure Milk Bill is passed, John Burns thinks of dealing with bread. We shall have to call him Minister for the Interior.

Some Night won a race at Liverpool. We always thought it would, some day.

* * *

Money may be the root of all evil, but it is the most cultivated root in the world.

* * *

People may sneer at "butter substitutes," but they are undoubtedly spreading.

* * *

A Barking labourer who begged at a policeman's house, got what he asked for—a copper.

* * *

The Leeds Watch Committee has banned a "Sapho" film. There will be a rush for it now.

* * *

"I have really unveiled enough," writes Lord Rosebery. But he has never shown his hand.

* * *

"Baker to Help Aviation," reads a heading. Just the man—accustomed to make things rise.

* * *

A Swiss architect has been fined 28s. for throwing a kiss to a girl. Evidently she wasn't struck.

* * *

"The Chaperon," is described as a new farce, but the girls all say the subject is beyond a joke.

* * *

To call a new book "The Sling," rather suggests that the author may make an aim for himself.

* * *

"Fresh taxation in the new Budget is likely," we read. But there is nothing fresh about that.

* * *

Bernard Shaw, who has become a motor-cyclist, could have required no lessons in tooting his horn.

* * *

It is claimed that for a woman a new hat is a tonic. It ought to relieve that "worn out" expression.

* * *

"All the Winners" is the title of the new Empire revue. It should be something "extra special."

* * *

Billiard tables for the House of Commons are suggested. But how many Members "play the game"?

* * *

"Nearly every girl has two fellows," says Abe Martin. Yes, and they don't know they are being "had."

* * *

Lake Magadi, in East Africa, consists of thirty miles of pure soda. What a lot of whisky is necessary there!

* * *

A cynic remarks that April, popular for weddings, commences with the creating of an unlimited number of fools.

* * *

A cock ostrich is employed to draw a pony carriage at the Zoo. Why not a cock pony to draw an ostrich carriage?

* * *

The fact that there has been a general decline in litigation indicates a corresponding increase in commonsense.

* * *

Rag-time is as old as Cinderella. Read her history and you will find it commenced when the clock struck twelve.

* * *

From a playbill: "Princess Bariatinsky and Company in "Lolotte!" Please don't pronounce it "Low Lot."

* * *

The Italian countess who desired to be buried in a blanket seems to have been tolerably sure of her destination.

* * *

A Wood Green man, asked his occupation, replied "Old-age pensioner." Well, it must be hard work—living on it.

* * *

As a sign of Spring it is chronicled that a wasp has been seen in Liverpool. Also, Scotland Yard is full of bluebottles.

* * *

It being the off season, a general election is to take place in the Isle of Man. They do these little things in their spare time.

* * *

A Norfolk farmer has a pig with four perfect ears. How Nature wastes gifts; a servant girl with *two* would be priceless.

* * *

The Admiralty is purchasing hounds for night duty at Gibraltar. No wonder military men say the Service is going to the dogs.

* * *

Sir John Cockburn thinks nobody should wear sleeping clothes, but only a nightcap. We prefer our nightcap before we go to bed.

* * *

The Football League is determined to oust players who bet. If a football player who bets is no good; a player who doesn't bet is no better.

"Bullets" Prizes now value £1,895 weekly.

FINAL COUPON THIS WEEK: LAST CHANCE.

FOR NEAREST CORREOT FORECASTS **£250**

£1,000 Cash Prize

SPECIAL PRIZE FOR LADIES **£50**

THIS is the second and *LAST WEEK* of our "Wind up" Football contest, the final coupon appearing on page 2 of the cover of this issue. It is *YOUR LAST CHANCE* this season of exercising your football knowledge and skill. Don't fail to take advantage of it, fill in the coupon *now*—and likewise get all your friends to try for our final football fortune.

What you have to do is to forecast the results of the matches given on the entrance form on the inside of our front cover, selected from the last of this season's League fixtures, **to be played on April 26th.** Draw your pen through the team you think will lose; if you predict a draw do not cross out either team.

The £1,000 in cash will be paid to the competitor sending us an Entrance form containing correct forecasts of the matches played to a finish, **even if the number be only 10 or 12.** As in our previous football competitions,

ABANDONED MATCHES MAKE NO DIFFERENCE.

With the knowledge of form acquired by our readers, we quite expect that the £1,000 will be won; and so we have deposited that sum specially with our Bankers, whose receipt we reproduce on this page.

Should it happen that no entrance form be received giving the whole of the correct results, the sum of

£250 IN CASH

will, in any event, be paid to the competitor sending the most correct forecasts short of the full number.

The RULES and COUPON will be found ON THE INSIDE of FRONT COVER.

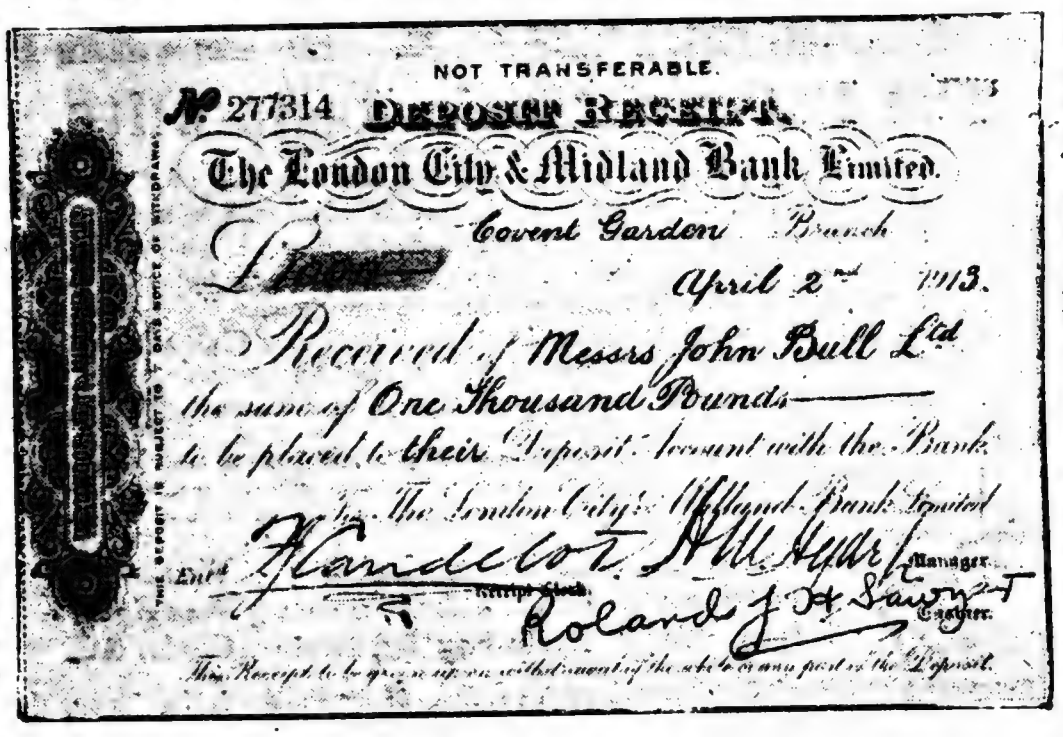
£50 FOR LADIES.

Ladies are again cordially invited to enter. They have the same chance as male competitors of winning the £1,000 or the £250, but in the event of a lady not winning or sharing either of these prizes we shall pay the special prize of £50 to the lady sending more correct forecasts than any other lady competitor.

You can send in as many entries as you like, and any number may be enclosed in the same envelope. Friends can send their entries in one envelope, but every coupon must be signed by the person making the forecast. The competition is one of pure skill, and competitors should make a point of reading the football columns of the daily papers.

THIS IS THE LAST WEEK, so don't fail to make use of the coupon in this issue. You will find it on page 2 of our coloured cover.

WAITING AT THE BANK FOR YOU.


NOT TRANSFERABLE.

No. 277314 DEPOSIT RECEIPT.

The London City & Midland Bank Limited.

Covent Garden Branch

April 2nd 1913.

Received of Messrs John Bull Ltd

the sum of One Thousand Pounds

to be placed to their Deposit Account with the Bank

for The London City & Midland Bank Limited

Entd Handcock Manager.

Roland J. Lawyer Cashier.

This Receipt to be given up on withdrawal of the whole or any part of the Deposit.

NO GOALS.

NO FEES.

LOOK OUT FOR OUR GREAT SUMMER COMPETITION. NOT A FOOTBALL CONTEST—BUT LIKE IT. PARTICULARS SHORTLY.

After you have filled up your entries for this competition, turn to page 578, where you will find particulars of "Bullets," a simple and attractive Competition which you should not fail to enter. A first prize of £500 in cash is offered this week, in addition to more than 5,500 cash and other prizes to the value of over £1,895.

John Bull League Notes.

(By the General Secretary.)

The objects of the League are :—In Religion : *To stamp out Cant, Self-righteousness and Sectarian animosities.* In Social Life : *To stimulate a spirit of robust self-reliance in place of the artificial protection of grandmotherly legislation*—*and* In Politics : *To Promote the establishment of a* Business Government *in substitution for the present effete and dishonest Party System.* All applications for membership to be addressed to the General Secretary, 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.

Cardiff.—The meeting on Friday last, at the Park Hall, adds yet another to the string of tremendous successes of the present tour. It was a personal triumph of, and public tribute to, the President, and is sure to have great and lasting effect on South Wales generally. Mr. Norman Kendrick, and Mr. W. Davies, of Treherbert, at the organ and with the League Songs respectively, delighted the waiting audience. On the platform could be seen the majority of the City Councillors and the local prominent business men. Mr. Lincoln Read, the well-known barrister of Cardiff, made an admirable Chairman.

Hull.—On Friday the President will visit the City Hall. This being his first appearance there, his speech is awaited with great interest. There are no ordinary tickets left, but a few reserved seats at one shilling can be obtained from any of the following :—Messrs. F. W. Sayer, " Percy's," 38, Chariot Street; G. West, 9, Belts Place, Blackfriargate; R. C. Bellamy, 5, Cogan Chambers, Bowlalley Lane; G. C. Duffill, 701, Spring Bank West; H. Cowling, 9, Pulman Street; E. Machon, 92, Victoria Avenue; B. Smith, 4, Harold Avenue; R. Chapman, 88, Freehold Street; H. L. Harvey, 75, Walton Street; M. J. Davis, 70, Freehold Street; W. R. C. Butler, 16, Chaucer Street; J. F. Werge, 4, Norfolk Street; F. Ward, 8, Togo Crescent, Eastbourne Street; and F. W. Morrissey (the Local Chairman), 28, Louis Street. A portion of the hall will be set aside for non-ticket holders. I am at the Imperial Hotel, where I shall be pleased to meet any of our members with a view to forming a Provisional Committee.

Birmingham.—A most successful meeting was held on Thursday, last week, at the Gower Street Schools, Lozells, and after impressive speeches by the Chairman and several members of the Committee a resolution in favour of the Aims and Objects of the League was carried without a dissentient. Local members are particularly requested to turn up at the smoking concert, to-night (Thursday), at Ye Old Royale Hotel, Temple Row. A first-class programme has been arranged. Tickets, one shilling each, may be obtained from any of the following :—Messrs. Norman Owen, The Primroses, Four Oaks; Chas. L. Kay, 155, Somerville Road, Small Heath; Chas. T. Wilson, 363, St. Benedict's Road, Small Heath; V. Allport, 3, Turville Road, Handsworth; C. Carlisle, 7, Tenby Road, Moseley; Chas. Miller, 84, Arley Road, Saltley; A. Page, 5, Triangle Chambers, Martineau Street; Alfred Rowe, 219, Trinity Road, Aston; Arthur F. Taylor, 3, Woodfield Road, King's Heath; A. R. Tye, 132, Bromyard Road, Hall Green; and Tom Wiggin, 13, Birchfield Road, Aston. The Branch, in continuance of its local campaign, will hold public meetings at College Road Schools, Sparkhill, on Wednesday, April 23rd, and Somerville Road Schools, Small Heath, on Thursday, April 24th, both meetings to commence at 8.30 p.m. sharp. Any further information can be obtained from Mr. Norman Owen.

Glasgow.—A grand smoking concert will be held in the Lansdowne Restaurant, Hope Street, to-night (Thursday), at 8 p.m. Tickets, sixpence each, including refreshments, can be obtained from Messrs. D. Tait, 13, Grafton Square; H. H. Ognall, 2, Wardlaw Drive, Rutherglen; C. H. Chell, 6, Radnor Street, Sandyford; W. Smart, 222, Paisley Road; A. Tait, 23, Palermo Street, Springburn; D. McLean, 8, South Chester Street, Shettleston; and H. McConc, the Local Secretary, 1,222, Springburn Road.

Bristol.—The annual general meeting of this Branch will be held on Wednesday, 23rd inst., at the Kingsley Hall, Old Market Street, at 8 p.m. Members of the Branch are particularly requested to attend, in view of the important business to be transacted.

Hall's Wine

The National Tonic Restorative.

In convalescence, in all the innumerable forms of "run-down-ness," the strengthening results of Hall's Wine are almost beyond belief. "I tell all my run-down patients," writes a doctor, "to take Hall's Wine between meals; it gives an immediate bracing effect to the system." And it is that real, unmistakable *feeling* of *benefit* that Hall's Wine so swiftly brings that has made it the great and growing favourite it is with doctors and the public alike.

If you are in any way below par, if you suffer from any of the complaints outlined below, be persuaded in your own interests to start Hall's Wine to-day, remembering that benefit is *Guaranteed.*

Nerve Trouble Influenza Debility Weakness
Breakdown Bronchitis Anaemia Neuralgia
Depression Brain Fag Insomnia Colds, &c.

Buy a bottle of Hall's Wine to-day. If, after taking half of it, you do not feel real benefit, return the half-empty bottle within fourteen days, and purchase money and postage will be refunded.

Extra-large size, 3/6; smaller size, 2/-. Sold by all Wine Merchants, and Grocers and Chemists with wine licences.

PROPRIETORS: STEPHEN SMITH & CO., LTD., BOW, LONDON.

SALE

FURNITURE & HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS

SALE

Formerly the properties of VISCOUNT PEEL, HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF RUTLAND, THE LATE LORD LISTER, LADY MARGARET JENKIN & LORD NORBURY & others,

NOW ON SALE.

THE NEWMAN & OXFORD STREET Furniture & Antique Depositories, Ltd.,

92, 93, 94, NEWMAN ST., OXFORD ST., W.

The following is an abbreviated list of goods now to be seen.

The Bedroom Furniture Comprises 50 Bedrooms

8	Oak Bedroom Suites, comprising Wardrobes with Bevelled Plate Glass Doors, full Dressing Chest, Washstand with Marble Top and Tile Back and Chair	24	17 6
4	White Enamel Bedroom Suites, complete	4	4 0
3	Superior well-made Oak Bedroom Suites, Reflex Mirrors to Dressing Table	6	6 0
5	Inlaid Sheraton Design Bedroom Suites, handsome design	8	10 0
8	Oak Bedsteads fitted with Combination Wire	0	18 6
3	3-ft. White and Brass Bedsteads, equal to new	1	2 6
4	Artistic Design White Bedroom Suites, large Bevelled Plate Glass, Door to Wardrobe, Tall Dressing Chest, Washstand and 2 Chairs	6	15 0
	Antique Mahogany Bow Front Chest of Drawers	3	15 0
4	Large size Oak Bedroom Suites (worth double)	8	19 6
6	Full Size Oak Bedsteads, with Sanitary Wire Overlay, Bolster and 2 Pillows (Bedding equal to new)	3	3 0
3	Inlaid Sheraton Design Bedroom Suites, with Shaving Mirror to Washstand	11	11 0
4	Large size Sheraton Design Bedroom Suites, Oval Plate Glass to Wardrobe and Reflex Mirrors to Dressing Table	15	10 0
4	Full size Sheraton Design Bedsteads, complete	3	10 0
	Pair of Square Tube Brass Bedsteads	4	10 0
	Full size Massive Brass Bedstead and Cable Edge Wire Spring	5	5 0
3	Large Double Door Sheraton Bedroom Suites	17	10 0
6	ft 6 in. Mahogany Wardrobe, fitted 2-3rds Hanging and 1-3rd Drawers and Trays, a bargain	11	10 0
	A Fine Old English Mahogany Tall Boy Chest of 9 Drawers	12	10 0
2	6-ft. Sheraton Design Bedroom Suites	25	0 0
	6-ft. Louis XV. Design Bedroom Suite, exquisite design	31	10 0

Dining-room Furniture, etc., continued—

Oak Roll Top Desk	4	15 0
Large size Chesterfield and 2 very comfortable Easy Chairs in Real Leather	15	19 6
4 Open Dwarf Bookcases	1	5 0
Set of "William and Mary" Design Chairs	7	15 0
Carved Brown Oak Sideboard, fitted with large Bevelled Plate Glass and Cupboards under	7	19 6
7ft. Mahogany Pedestal Sideboard	10	10 0
21 very comfortable Club Easy Chairs	1	15 6
5 ft. Bow Front Mahogany Queen Anne Sideboard, rail at back	10	12 0
6 ft. Black Carved Oak Sideboard, elaborately carved	19	19 6
15 ft. 6 in. by 12 ft. Turkey Carpet	10	15 0
5 ft. Bow Front Sheraton Design Sideboard	6	15 0
6 ft. by 4 ft. Mahogany Dining Table	3	10 0
8 ft. by 4 ft. Massive Ball Claw Dining Table	10	10 0
6 ft. 6 in. Handsome Chippendale Design Sideboard	25	10 0

The Drawing-Rooms Comprise—

3 Louis XV. Design Cabinets	3	10 0
Handsome 7-piece Settee Suite	4	10 0
3 Mahogany Card Table	1	15 0
20 Occasional Chairs	0	8 6
Very fine Chesterfield, 2 very comfortable Easy Chairs, and 4 Solid Mahogany Small Chairs	12	13 0
An Upright Piano, by Westphall	18	18 0
A Decorated Satinwood Suite	8	15 0
3 Display Occasional Tables	1	17 6
A Music Cabinet	2	2 0
A Sheraton Design Glass Cabinet	3	10 0

SALE — **SEND FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC CATALOGUE. SENT POST FREE.** — SALE

3 ft. 6 in. Carved Light Oak Dressing Table and Washstand	7	15 0
A pair of Inlaid Sheraton Design Bedsteads	2	18 6
2 Convertible Bed-Couches	3	3 0
Very fine 6 ft. 6 in. Sheraton Bedroom Suite, comprising Wardrobe, with 2 Plate Glass Mirrors to Wardrobe, Dressing Chest, 4 ft. 6in. wide, with large Mirror at back, 4 ft. Washstand with Cupboards under Marble Top and Back, 3 Chairs, Pedestal Cupboard and Towel Rail	63	0 0
A very fine Exhibition Satin Wood Bedroom Suite, 7 ft. Wardrobe, 4 ft. 6 in. Pedestal Dressing Table, and 4 ft. 6 in. Washstand. This suite is one rarely to be seen, and all connoisseurs of high-class work should not fail to inspect this article	110	0 0

The Dining-rooms, Smoking-rooms and Libraries comprise—

3 4 ft. 6 in. Oak Sideboards	3	12 6
Set of 8 Chairs (6 smalls and 2 Carvers)	4	15 0
3 Extending Dining Tables	1	2 6
18 Mahogany Queen Anne Design Dining Chairs	1	6 6
5 5 ft. Queen Anne Design Sideboards	8	10 0
Massive Elizabethan Design Sideboard	9	9 0
Set 8 Chairs, covered in Red Leather	10	15 0
Massive Carved Oak Table to match	3	10 0
20 Odd Dining Room Chairs each	0	10 0
12 Lounge Easy Chairs each	0	18 6
Very well Upholstered 6 ft. 6 in. Chesterfield and very comfortable Easy Chairs, an absolute bargain	10	10 0
A very fine Antique Pedestal Sideboard, inlaid Mahogany	12	10 0
6 Small Chairs, inlaid Mahogany and 2 Carving Chairs to match	12	10 0
A very fine Combination Billiard-Dining Table	15	15 0
A handsome set of Mahogany Ball and Claw Chairs, Leather Seats, worth double	10	10 0
6 ft. Louis XV. Design Sideboard, exquisite design	15	10 0
Chesterfield in Art Tapestry	4	10 0
10 Standard Lamps each	0	18 6
Very fine Gilt Louis XVI. Drawing-room Suite, upholstered in French Tapestry	17	17 0
A Very fine Vernis Martin Cabinet	24	0 0
Vernis Martin Commode with hand-painted Panels	18	18 0
4 Gilt Berger Chairs each	10	10 0
5 ft. 6 in. Chesterfield in Tapestry	3	13 0
Bureau Bookcase, Sheraton Design	6	6 0
Drop Front Bureau	2	15 0
Elegant Design Inlaid Mahogany China Cabinet	8	10 0
Pair of Inlaid Palm Stands each	0	18 6

Pianos—

Piano in Rosewood Case, by Gustav Richter	21	10 0
Piano in Walt. Case, by Oetzmann	13	10 0
Piano in Ebonised Case, by Steinmayer	17	0 0
Piano in Walnut Case, by Collard and Collard	12	10 0
Transposing Piano in Burr Walt. Case, by Gigneif	25	0 0
Piano, by Carl Strauss	18	18 0
Piano, by Broadwood	24	10 0
Piano, by Hoffmann	15	10 0

(And several other Pianos in stock by well-known Makers).

Fine Turkey, Indian, Persian Carpets and Rugs, etc.—

20 Art Squares each	0	7 6
10 Bordered Tapestry Squares	1	5 0
About 20 Turkey Carpets, all sizes, from	3	15 0
15 Bordered Velvet Pile Carpets each	2	19 6
20 Sheepskin Rugs	0	12 6
About 500 Rugs, all good designs	0	7 6
12 by 15 Turkey Carpet	12	0 0
(10) 12 by 9 Axminster Carpets	3	10 0
15 very fine Brussels Carpets, from	2	10 0

Large quantity of Stair Carpet and Baize, etc. A large quantity of Cutlery, Bed and Table Linen always in Stock.

SALE

SEND FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC CATALOGUE. SENT POST FREE.

ANY ARTICLE WILL BE SOLD SEPARATELY AND CAN BE SELECTED AT ONCE, AND CAN BE STORED UNTIL REQUIRED, FREE OF CHARGE. ALL GOODS DELIVERED AND PACKED FREE OF CHARGE

THE NEWMAN & OXFORD STREET Furniture & Antique Depositories, LTD.

SALE

92, 93, 94, NEWMAN ST., OXFORD ST., W.

1 Door from Oxford Street, 3 minutes from Tottenham Court Road and Oxford Circus and adjoining all the principal Tubes.

HOURS OF BUSINESS: Open every day 9 till 8, except Saturday when we close at 1. Telephone: 1387 Central.

CITY NOTES.

[*For Financial and Insurance Replies, see page 576.*]

The Stock Markets.

According to all present indications, peace in the Near East will be concluded in a few days, and as the money outlook continues very satisfactory, and rates of discount keep falling, the improvement in the Stock Markets which has already set it should make further satisfactory progress. The American market has experienced a sharp improvement, but the fact that a number of new American railroad issues are now being pushed forward causes hesitation amongst buyers, which is not surprising. Canadian Pacifics appear to have been bought for German account, the Berlin people thus replacing the shares sold at the bottom by others costing a great deal more. Copper has again improved, as we had foreshadowed, and looks like going higher, while Copper shares will doubtless follow. Tin has also advanced sharply, and so has Lead, partly owing to the tramway strike in the Barrier district. In fact, this seems to be the time for the base metals, which are now coming into strong demand again, as the industries so long kept back by the fears of a European war are commencing to work again. Kaffirs and Rhodesians, too, have experienced a sharp rise, and are likely to go higher. In the case of Diamond shares, a Bear raid, accompanied by rumours that the Union of South Africa Government was going to put a further export tax on the glittering stones caused a temporary decline in the shares, but the rumour has been promptly contradicted by Messrs. Barnato. Nigerian Tin shares are keeping steady without any further sensational advances. Rubber has again declined, but rubber shares after their heavy fall seem inclined to pull themselves together again. Oil shares, after temporary weakness, are rallying, and are bound to go higher, in view of the great and growing demand for oil. The latest Bull point is the fact that the Mexican Railway is shown by the dividend announcement to have done far better than was expected, the reason being that the use of oil instead of coal has caused great savings. Home Rails are commencing to improve, the run being just now on Brighton "A," North British, Midlands, and North Western. Altogether, markets are much healthier than they have been for some time past.

Vaal River Goldfields.

Remarkable "Report and Accounts" have just been issued by this concern, which was formed as a reconstructed Company about the end of April, 1910, and held its first ordinary general meeting just two years afterwards. The amount paid to the old Company is stated as £302,499 2s. 6d., but the total amount credited on the shares issued to the liquidator was only £297,499 2s. 6d., so that £5,000 was apparently paid in cash; and we shall be glad to know how much of it reached the shareholders. We understand, further, that the Rubber Exploration Co., which underwrote the reconstruction, failed to complete its contract, but that notwithstanding this £1,875 was paid in respect of commission and £2,000 for "Preliminary Expenses." What was the directorate of the Rubber Exploration? Was it for all practical purposes Messrs. Conybeare and Morrison, the chairman and managing director respectively of the Vaal River Goldfields? It further appears that the total amount expended in and about the property of the Company for a period of nearly two years was £3,795 6s. 5d., whilst the London expenses for the same period were £2,983 15s. 2d. Then there is the item of Cash and Sundry Debtors—£529 5s. 11d. to meet liabilities of £2,991 4s. This, however, was six months ago, and we have no hesitation in saying that the position of the Company is much more precarious at the present time. Indeed, we see no prospect but further reconstruction. By the way, we notice that Mr. Morrison is now posing as a diamond expert and that he waxes warm at the prospect of discovering "green diamonds." Was he thinking of green-horns?

Bucklands Estate and Diamond Company.

Apropos of diamonds, how is it that market-men are always getting news ahead of shareholders? In the case of Bucklands Estate we hear on undoubted authority that the long-anticipated extension of the railway from Kimberley to Kuruman is to be constructed and that it will pass right through the Bucklands estate. But the directors presumably know nothing, and the knowing ones are quietly picking up the shares at a ridiculously low price.

Kirwan Rubber Lands.

We referred to this fiasco in our issue of November 9th. It is now admitted on all hands that the Company should never have been floated, yet a Mr. Rowe, a shareholder, has just been told by Mr. Justice A. T. Lawrence that because he did not take prompt steps against the Company, he could not raise the question of misrepresentation in the action brought against him for the payment of the balance of calls on his shares. We consider this somewhat hard. Mr. Rowe repudiated by letter at the earliest moment the bargain that had been foisted upon him. He evidently did not intend to throw good money after bad in suing the Company for the return of his application and allotment moneys; but he waited to raise his defence if the Company sought to recover the balance of the calls. After two years the Company did so, and Mr. Rowe is now told that he is too late! We cannot help thinking that the reports of the case appearing in the Press are not quite accurate.

A Ten Years' Liquidation.

We have heard of many long-drawn-out liquidations, but never of one where there was so little to liquidate as in the matter of Sea Gold, Ltd., whose affairs came before the Court last week. It appears that the Company was formed in 1901 with a capital of £300,000 to extract gold from sea-water; but it only managed to extract a few pounds from the public, and went into liquidation in August, 1903. Since then the liquidator has been endeavouring to collect the calls still due on shares; but in July, 1905, he made a call of 7s. which produced £2,612, and there will now be but £500 or less to be returned to shareholders after paying the cost of liquidation and the directors' fees, which latter are said to amount to £1,180, but as the Company was only in existence for two years, we take it that there must be some mistake in the amount. We should like to have the names of the directors. Their identities were not disclosed in Court.

Radium Ore Mines—Latest.

We are compelled to refer, once again, to this impudent ramp of Frank Sherwood Gray. From the report just issued it appears that the concern was left stranded at the end of last year with £65 in cash as against creditors claiming £1,295. It had issued 365,835 shares, but nothing in the way of cash had been received in respect of them. The directors consider that another £6,000 will be required to bring the mine into a paying position. It is significant that at the recent meeting the chairman made no mention of Frank Sherwood Gray. Surely he should have welcomed the opportunity of publicly dissociating himself from the flamboyant and misleading statements of this Yankee share pusher.

The Radnor Coal Syndicate.

In last week's issue we dealt with a somewhat remarkable invitation to a reader to take an interest in this concern, in which he was informed that he should communicate with Messrs. Swepstone's, solicitors, 9, St. Helen's Place, E.C., "asking to be allowed to subscribe for £100 or £200" in the Radnor Coal Syndicate. Messrs. Swepstone have called upon us, and have assured us that their only connection with the undertaking is the fact that they act as its solicitors and the registered offices are at their address.

Prospectusless Companies.

From recent announcements in the advertising columns of some of our contemporaries, "for public information only," a certain class of company promoter is evidently reverting to what was until recently a very fashionable, but, in our opinion, very reprehensible procedure. These "announcements" as a rule pave the way for the introduction to the Stock Exchange of the shares of the Company mentioned usually at a premium. As a general rule the information given in these preliminary advertisements is of the most meagre description. Take the case of the Moctezuma Oilfields, appearing under "New Issues" in the *Observer* of Sunday last. It is stated that the Company has recently been formed with a capital of £200,000, to acquire options over oil-bearing lands in that disturbed country, Mexico. No particulars are given of the terms or duration of such options, nor are we vouchsafed any information as to what actual working capital the Company will possess. If a market should be made in the shares, intending purchasers should satisfy themselves on these points, but we are afraid they will find it difficult to do so.

Consolidated Oilfields of South Africa.

As we go to Press, important news reaches us in regard to this Company, with which we shall deal next week. *Meanwhile, its shares should be bought.*

Our Great New Summer Competition. See next week's issue.

A GREAT IMPERIAL ENTERPRISE

OIL WITHIN THE EMPIRE.

A £1 Share That May be Worth £200.

THE CONSOLIDATED OIL FIELDS OF SOUTH AFRICA, LTD.

As recently announced in this page, no more shares in this important undertaking can now be obtained at par, in view of the fact that one of South Africa's leading geologists, Mr. J. E. MILLS-DAVIES, A.I.M.M., who has just returned from a visit to the properties in the Ceres district, Cape Province, controlled by the Company, has taken the responsible step of locating the first borehole, with the result that machinery will now be shipped and drilling operations commenced.

A preliminary report as the result of this visit has just been received from Mr. MILLS-DAVIES, in which he again refers to the unquestionable evidences of Petroleum upon the Company's properties.

* * * * * *

It may be recalled that the capital of the Company is £250,000, including £50,000 working capital, in shares of £1 each.

* * * * * *

The properties, in the Ceres district, controlled by the Company are about 150 square miles in extent, and are in one block.

* * * * * *

The ground has been visited and reported upon by many eminent Oil Experts, who have certified to its petroliferous character.

* * * * * *

Extracts from these Reports, published in this page from time to time, show that the Experts are all of the definite opinion that Petroleum, in payable quantities, abounds on the Company's properties.

* * * * * *

The Company has the exclusive right, for a period of ten years, to work OIL AND ALL OTHER MINERALS over this extensive territory, and the right, at any time during that period, to purchase the freeholds of the properties.

* * * * * *

The importance of this new industry to the Empire cannot be overrated, Ceres being within 100 miles of Capetown and Simonstown, South Africa's naval base.

* * * * * *

The annual value of the imports of Mineral Oil into South Africa exceeds £500,000

* * * * * *

The Company is a parent undertaking, its policy being to dispose of Oil rights, over given areas, to subsidiary Companies, retaining a substantial interest in them, and reserving to Shareholders in the Company a preferential right to allotment of shares in such subsidiary Companies.

* * * * * *

The potentialities of the Company are enormous. According to a leading American authority its £1 shares may attain the value of £200 from its Oil rights alone.

* * * * * *

Investors and others interested in this important enterprise, which in the opinion of "John Bull" is destined to mark the dawn of a new era in the Oil production of the World, and the shares of which are described by the Editor of that Journal as constituting "by far the most attractive purchase in the Oil Market to-day," should apply for particulars.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PETROLEUM EXPLORATION SYNDICATE, LTD.,
80, Coleman Street, London. E.C.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE LETTER-BOX.

Letters containing enquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, John Bull, 52, New Broad Street, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

A Postal Order for 1s. must accompany each Financial or Insurance Enquiry,

Consolidated Oil Fields of South Africa.—R. N. P. (Blackheath).—As a speculation with wonderful prospects of great success we can certainly recommend a purchase of these shares, and you should communicate with the Secretary of the South African Petroleum Exploration Syndicate, 80, Coleman Street, London, E.C.—A. B. X. (Bromsgrove).—There are plenty of instances in the history of the mining market in which shares have sprung up to the extent mentioned. We have no doubt you could always find a buyer for your shares by communicating with the South African Petroleum Exploration Syndicate, Ltd., 80, Coleman Street, E.C.

Mint Publishing.—A. B. (Aberdeen).—This Bond is worthless, and the concern is no longer in existence.

Panama Timber.—Smilax.—There is no quotation for these Debentures, and consequently you have no option but to hold. It remains to be seen what effect the opening of the Panama Canal will have upon the fortunes of the Company; but we are not hopeful.

Outside Broker.—W. R. W. (Grantham).—The whole matter resolves itself into the fact that these outside people are evidently endeavouring to wriggle out of their obligations. You have a good case if you sue them; but they would probably plead the Gaming Act, or endeavour to evade payment in some way or another. We understand that the control of the concern has recently passed into other hands.

Oil Co.—Lonsdale.—The concern is under respectable auspices, but at present there is no market in the shares. The Company is believed to hold some good properties, but everything must obviously depend upon further developments.

Crimea.—Crœsus.—It is believed that the Crimea has considerable possibilities as a producer of oil in the future, but at present no attempt is being made to exploit these deposits systematically, and we know of no English Company in existence for the purpose.

Industrials.—C. C. (Colne.—The fact that the Debenture stock is less than 80 suggests that the concern is not doing as well as it might. There is no regular market in the shares. Your best plan is to get into communication with a stockbroker—a member of the Stock Exchange—and ask him to get a quotation, if possible.—Frager.—The market does not like the new departure taken by the Company, and involving a big Debenture issue. Moreover, competition is steadily increasing. In these circumstances, it might be advisable to take advantage of any favourable opportunity to realise your holding.

Giltedged.—Safe Investment.—Yes, New Zealand, Queensland, and West Australian Bonds would be quite suitable for the investment of the £600 in question, and preferable to the other securities mentioned. Take an opportunity of selling Consols on any improvement, and re-invest in higher-yielding stocks. No reason for selling South Western Bank shares.

Humidine Co., Ltd.—T. W. V. (Toronto).—This Canadian reader wants some information regarding the Humidine Co., Ltd., 7, King Street, Cheapside, London, E.C. There is no market in the shares, and we are unable to obtain any information in regard to it. Can any reader oblige?

Trouville Municipal Casino.—J. I. M. (Mill Hill).—We are not in a position to advise a purchase of these bonds.

Foreign Rail Bond.—H. P. (Havant).—These Foreign Railway Bonds are a good second-class holding to a moderate extent.

Cable Debenture.—Welshman (Pembroke).—The fall in these Cable Debentures has been entirely in sympathy with other securities of the same class. There is no reason to sell in a hurry, and the interest on the stock is safe enough.

Associated County Halls.—P. A. M. (Chiswick).—You are quite right in your remarks, but one shareholder can do very little. The best plan is to get into communication with other large holders, a list of whom can be seen at Somerset House, with a view to common action. That will be the only way of hurrying up the directors and compelling them to publish the accounts without further delay.

Intestacy.—C. T. H. C. (Birmingham).—You must take out letters of administration of your father's estate, pending which the Secretary of the Company is justified in refusing to transfer the share. You might find it advantageous to employ a solicitor in the matter.

Globe Telegraph Trust.—Alpha (Deptford Park).—These shares are a good investment of their kind, but, obviously, they do not belong to the gilt-edged category. They yield at present over 5½ per cent., and are a fair holding to mix with other investments.

Two Industrials.—Edward.—As there is no regular market for either of these shares, it is rather difficult to judge. As regards the first mentioned, if an outside broker offers you 12s. net for the shares, they are probably worth more. Why not find out by getting a member of the Stock Exchange to obtain a price for you? With regard to the other shares, the Company is said to be doing better, and it might be worth while holding for a recovery, although you appear to have paid an inordinately high price.

First Dutch Insurance Co.—A. E. B. (Hemel Hempstead).—The London Office was closed some time ago. The business is now transacted from the Hague. We have no recent information respecting its financial position. Send us any documents in your possession and we will investigate.

National Benefit Life and Property.—H. H. (Bristol).—After paying off the mortgage the Certificate will be realised, and, having paid for six years, you could then claim a Fully-Paid-up Certificate, which means a Certificate upon which no further payments are required, and which would mature at the date of the original Certificate. The better plan, however, would be to exchange the Paid-up Certificate for an Endowment Assurance policy, getting the Company to add the amount of the Paid-up Certificate to the sum assured. If the Company will do this for you, the investment should prove advantageous, especially as it is a sound and progressive institution.

Mutual Property Investment and Accident Co.—J. McL. (Dennistoun).—The numerous complaints we have received satisfy us that the affairs of this concern call for investigation, especially from the standpoint of their inability to promptly meet applications for advances. You state that, having contributed for five years, you applied in September for £250 to enable you to purchase a cottage costing £300. After threatening legal proceedings, you received in December an offer of £200, but it was then too late, the house having been sold. We consider you have just cause for complaint, and, rather than continue the payment of subscriptions, we should accept their inequitable offer of 30 per cent. of the amount paid in, and terminate your connection with the Company.

Refuge Assurance Co.—P. T. W. (Co. Durham).—You say that on the death of your wife's brother, who had insured the lives of his father and mother, your wife and her sister were induced by the agent to continue the payments. Unless the policies were assigned to them prior to the death of the brother, your relatives have been contributing to policies which give them no legal consideration for the monies they have paid, and in that event the transaction is clearly irregular and the premiums they have paid recoverable. You had better communicate with the Head Office on the subject.

British Citizens' Assurance Co.—Anxious One.—It is one of a number of House Purchase companies which have not complied with the Life Assurance Act of 1909 by depositing £20,000 as security for policy-holders. Such concerns are likely to be brought to book by the Board of Trade when Accounts are submitted in the current year. We think you could recover the subscriptions paid on the ground that the Act has not been complied with, and therefore the policies you hold, having been issued *ultra vires*, are voidable in law. Consult a solicitor.

Various Policies.—Ardent.—We are obliged for your statement, which we have returned, and have noted the information relating to the several policies you hold, and which we may be able to utilise at a later date. We are not favourably impressed with the Royal London Friendly Society Endowment policy, which provides for the return of only 75 per cent. of the premiums in the event of death. If it is possible to surrender and obtain a Fully-Paid-up policy we should prefer that course.

New York Life Insurance Co.—G. R. (Hull).—The £250 policy you hold is a twenty years limited payment Life Accumulation Policy. This period having expired, you are disappointed on learning that you are not to receive the £250, and that the sum offered you for the surrender of the policy is £159 plus dividend accumulations, £83 6s. 7d.—total £242-6s. 7d. You cannot claim more, notwithstanding that you have paid in premiums £280 10s. If you had died within the accumulation period the sum assured and an amount equal to the total premium received by the Company would have become payable; having survived, all that you can demand is the reserve value of the policy, £158 15s. and the dividend accumulations above mentioned. You are entitled, in lieu of surrendering the policy, to various option benefits, and you must therefore decide as to the course you will adopt—otherwise the Company may apply the dividend apportioned to the purchase of an annuity. In all the circumstances, and having regard to your present age, we should surrender the policy for the cash payment allowed and invest the proceedings in a gilt edged security giving a satisfactory interest yield and likely to appreciate in capital value. To prevent misunderstanding in the future, we think the Company should declare on the face of similar policies that they are issued for whole life, but limited to twenty annual premium payments.

Pearl Assurance Co.—G. E. B. (Cornwall).—We have examined the Ordinary Branch Policy you hold, and it is in order. The assurance is for £50, the sum assured, with profits, becoming payable in 1932. Surrender Values are less favourable than those allowed by some other Companies—after two years 30 per cent. of the premiums paid is granted, and after three years 40 per cent. The Company, therefore is only legally called upon to pay not less than the latter figure, however long a policy may have remained in force. What we should like to know is why are not progressive Cash Surrender Values stated, increasing in amount with the age of the assurance, and so shown on the policy? In lieu of surrendering for cash, Condition 6 states that the person entitled to the benefit of the policy may obtain an Equivalent Paid-up policy. How many persons understand what an "Equivalent Paid-up policy" means? There should be less ambiguity and more precise information given in these policies relating to cash surrender values and paid up policies, so that the assured might ascertain at any time during the continuance of the assurance, the exact position in which he is placed. Want of space prevents us from dealing with the policy as a whole in this column, but looking at the Conditions all round we do not consider them in some respects over generous, and Condition 7 in particular requires further elucidation. According to our reading, Surrender Values are not applied to maintain a policy in force unless a loan has been made on the policy. If we are not correct in our interpretation of this point, perhaps the Company will set us right.

(A number of replies are held over.)

A Magnificent Piano and 200 other Prizes offered to "Mary Bull" readers. Out on Friday.

OUR ADVICE.

We hear a lot nowadays about the scarcity of men who are capable of earning as much as £5 a week and the struggle for existence of the thousands of men who are not able to demand more than 30s. a week to keep their wives and families.

Although in a few cases "bad luck" may be the reason, there is no disguising the fact that every man has his future in his own hands, more or less, and it is the man who realises this fact that is constantly on the look-out for opportunities for safeguarding himself against unemployment and for improving his present wage by making himself worth more money to either his present employer or a fresh one. No matter what his present occupation is, he is the kind of man who says to himself, "I will lose no time in fitting myself to enter the Motor Industry, which is now in its infancy, and which offers by far the best chances to smart men, and I will call or write at once to the Motor Industry's training centre:—The British School of Motoring, Coventry House, 5 and 6, Coventry Street, Piccadilly Circus, W. (opposite the Prince of Wales Theatre, near Leicester Square), for their Free Illustrated Prospectus (J) on how to obtain instruction in Practical Motoring and how to get a berth in the Motor Industry."

This is the kind of man who succeeds—he does not rely upon his present job or trade: he sees that he has two strings to his bow. He is the smart man—are you one also?

TO THE

GOUTY AND RHEUMATIC

As well as those suffering from: BACKACHE, SCIATICA, INDIGESTION, STIFFNESS, NEURITIS, HEADACHE, LUMBAGO, NEURALGIA, COLDS.

ANTURIC BATH SALTS

give relief by extracting from the blood and muscles the URIC ACID in the system, which, if not invariably the direct cause of these ailments, does much to aggravate them. In addition to being a proved treatment for the above complaints, there is nothing so refreshing and reviving as an ANTURIC BATH when tired out, or after any form of exertion or exercise.

Treatise Explaining

HOW and WHY

this treatment is so successful

FREE on Application

ANTURIC SALTS, Ltd. (Dept. J. B.),
379, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

EFFECTIVE HOME TREATMENT FOR TUBERCULOSIS.

Consumptive patients need no longer dread either the fate that formerly overtook all sufferers from lung troubles or costly and inconvenient journeys far from home to other climates or to some expensive sanatorium. Hundreds are now staying quietly at home restoring themselves to health by the use of the following recipe, which is the most effective prescription ever written for the cure of Tuberculosis. It is easily prepared, and for 2s. 6d. one can purchase enough of the essential oil to make several weeks' treatment.

It has caused quite a stir amongst the better class of specialists, and most remarkable cures are being reported from its use. It is made as follows:—

From your Chemist get 1 oz. of "Parmint" (Double Strength). Take this home and add to it ½ pint of hot water and 4 oz. Granulated Sugar. Stir until dissolved. Take 1 tablespoonful four times a day.

It has a strong healing effect upon the lungs, and gives renewed strength quickly to those who have become weak through prolonged illness. Every person suffering from lung trouble should try this recipe; there is nothing better.

HIGH-GRADE EMPLOYMENT

is hard to obtain, and many really capable men are compelled to occupy Unremunerative and Uncongenial Positions because they cannot get an opportunity of using their Special Abilities to the fullest advantage. Such men will find Hapgoods a source of desirable opportunities. We have large numbers of High-grade Positions open, and want to hear from Ambitious, Capable Men. If you are such a man, write us to-day.

HAPGOODS Ltd., Employment Experts, 167-168, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

FORTUNE'S FIVE FAVOURITES.

Covert Coat, winner of Grand National, was drawn by ticket E 26522, purchased by Mr. W. Hargrove, Royal Marine Infirmary, Deal. The first prize has been paid to him in the form of a Bank of England note for

£500

The number of the banknote is 68829.

The second, Irish Mail, was drawn by ticket O 24935, purchased by Mr. J. Parrish, 165, North Road, Clayton, Manchester. The second prize has been paid to him in the form of a Bank of England note for

£100

The number of the note is 16411.

The third, Carsey, was drawn by ticket P 19527, purchased by Mr. A. Elliott, 139, Portman Buildings, Lisson Grove, London. The third Prize has been paid to him in the form of a Bank of England note for

£50

The number of the banknote is 39760.

19 other subscribers drew starters and each received £5. 41 drew non-starters and each received £2. 200 subscribers received £1 consolation prizes; 500 received 10/- each and 2,000 received 5/- each.

Sunderland and Aston Villa will meet in the English Cup final. Sunderland were drawn by ticket A 26522, purchased by Mr. Joseph Dixon, 149, Albert Street, Millom, Cumberland. Aston Villa were drawn by ticket H 17129, purchased by Mr. J. J. Richards, 9, Shannon Grove, Brixton, London, S.W. The winner will receive a Bank of England note for

£500

and the loser will receive ***£100***.

The Editor of "JOHN BULL" on Feb. 1st stated:—

"We have many times expressed satisfaction with Mr. H. Diamond's methods, and can assure our readers that from beginning to end each sweep promoted by him is absolutely straight, square and above-board."

The Only Address is—

H. DIAMOND, LUCERNE, SWITZERLAND.

Letters 2½d. Postcards 1d.

BIG INCREASE IN BULLETS PRIZES!

FIRST PRIZE INCREASED TO £500
SECOND PRIZE INCREASED TO £75
MANY ADDITIONAL CASH PRIZES

FIRST PRIZE **£500** **FIRST PRIZE**

£75 SECOND PRIZE. **£25 THIRD PRIZE.**

10 Prizes of £2 10s.
10 " " £1
20 " " 10/-

TOTAL PRIZES VALUE **£1,895**

500 Prizes of 5/-

5,000 OTHER PRIZES VALUE OVER £1,100.

Bullets can only be constructed from any of these 40 Examples:—

THE BUDGET	MATRIMONIAL AGENCY	THE BRITISH FLAG	LAST GLASS	SMALL HOLDINGS
THE CUP FINAL	WASTING TIME	BIG DROP	NUMBER ONE	WINNING LIKES
THE FAIR SEX	UNRULY MEMBERS	SINS OF SOCIETY	UNMARRIED MAN	GETTING RICH
GRAND OPERA	AT SEA	THE UNIVERSE	A HELPING HAND	BLACK MARIA
STOLEN KISS	CHANCELLOR OF EXCHEQUER	SPEEDING UP	CUTTING REMARKS	COMMISSION AGENTS
THE SEASON	HIGH SPIRITS	TOP DOG	DISQUALIFIED	BEST MAN
WAKING UP	SO SWEET	FIND THE WOMAN	CIRCUMSTANCES ALTER CASES	GOOD EXAMPLE
A CLEAN SWEEP	FORTUNE'S SMILES	SOOTHING SYRUP	DOWN HILL	THE POPE

THE BIGGEST WEEKLY PRIZE OFFER MADE BY ANY PERIODICAL.

IMPORTANT.

EVERY BULLETS COUPON RECEIVED IS SLOWLY AND CAREFULLY READ BY OUR SPECIAL STAFF OF ADJUDICATORS. AFTER WHICH ALL THE COUPONS ARE READ A SECOND TIME WITH THE SAME TROUBLE AND CARE.

HOW TO MAKE BULLETS.

First choose any of our forty examples. Then give two words or three words having some bearing on the example chosen. The FIRST and LAST word selected MUST begin with ANY OF THE LETTERS in the example chosen. If three words are selected any word can be used as the middle word.

For instance, if you take the example, "A HELPING HAND," and take the letters "H" and "D," using the word "when" as the middle word, you can make the Bullet, "HECESSARY WHEN DOWN." Or from the example, "THE FAIR SEX," the Bullet, "TANTALIZING SOMETIMES" can be formed. Again, if you take the example, "THE UNIVERSE," using the letter "R" as initial for both the first and last word, you can form the Bullet, "REVOLVES RAPIDLY."

Competitors who have already won any prizes, large or small, in this competition are in no way debarred from winning again.

Competitors can send in two BULLETS on one coupon for sixpence, but if both coupons are used a postal order for one shilling must be sent.

The ink will not run if the coupon is slightly warmed before being used.

Closing date, Wednesday, April 23rd.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(29) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page, and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signed _____

Address _____

_____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon.

Not more than three words may be used to construct a Bullet.

This week's Bullets Coupons will also be found in "MARY BULL," dated April 26th.

Closing date, Wednesday, April 23rd.

Example _____

Bullet _____

Example _____

Bullet _____

(29) P.O. No. _____

I agree to enter this competition in accordance with the rules and conditions announced on this page, and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding

Signed _____

Address _____

_____

A Sixpenny P.O. Must Accompany this Coupon

If Both Coupons Are Used a Postal Order for 1/- Must Be Sent.

ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED "BULLETS NO. 29." "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.

Write "COMPETITION" on top left hand corner of Envelope.

ESULT OF 26TH BULLETS COMPETITION.

ST PRIZE OF £450:—

JENNIE ELLIS,
15, The Grove, Swansea, Wales.
xample:—ACTRESS'S DIAMONDS.
ullet:—IF PASTE—CHASTE.

COND PRIZE OF £50:—

Mr. T. W. SHELDRICK,
195, Downham Road, Islington, London, N.
xample:—SAME AGAIN.
ullet:—SECOND POLICEMAN'S EVIDENCE.

IRD PRIZE OF £25

Mr. A. G. COPLIN,
5, Killigrew Street, Falmouth, Cornwall.
xample:—MOST PAINFUL.
ullet:—LOBSTER'S LAST SWIM.

EN Prizes of £2 10s. are awarded as follows:

HUGH B. NEWLAND, 90, North Road, Wolverhampton: THE SUFFRAGETTE MOVEMENT—NEEDS SELF GOVERNMENT.
OSWALD W. GILLOW, 34, Brougham Rd., Seacombe, Cheshire: THE BROKERS—"RENT" USUALLY RENT.
A. NURTHALL BROWN, 2, Ashmore Street, Sunderland: LIVING WAGE—LOVERS THINK ANYTHING.
T. PRITT, 80, Lumley Road, Redcar, Yorks: MATRIMONY—"MITE" SUCCEEDS "RITE."
A. E. BETTS, 48, Loncroft Road, Camberwell, S.E.: HOLIDAY TRIPS—REVEALS POSTERS IMPOSTORS.
F. H. HARRISON, 65, Swadlincote Road, Woodville, Burton-on-Trent: MATRIMONY—"YARNS" "HOME-SPUN" NOW.
Mr. F. H. FULFORD, 19, St. John's Road, Clifton, Bristol: LIVING WAGE—LESS CORONERS' INQUESTS.
Mr. H. O. WELLS, 13, St. Peter's Road, Holloway, N.: THE BROKERS—RACING SYSTEMS'S SUCCESSORS.
Mr. F. YOUNG, 87, Stormont Road, Clapham Common: HER TONGUE—HUSBAND'S HOMEWARD THOUGHTS.
Mr. ROBERT L. BEWLEY 58, Grosvenor Rd., Rathmines, Dublin. THE SUFFRAGETTE MOVEMENT—"FASTERS" STILL MASTERS.

10 PRIZE WINNERS of £1 EACH.

ALLEN, R., 6, Lawn Road, Southampton.
BAKER, W. F., Moreton House, Woodland Rd., Clifton, Bristol.
CLARK, THOS., Gisburne, Princes Park (?—full address)
MAKGILL-CRICHTON, J. H. M., Newlands House, Loudwater, Bucks.
MASON, Mrs. G. E., 76, Tempest Road, Leeds,.
MASON, J. J., 100, Framfield Road, Uckfield, Sussex.
MOORHEAD, F., 11, Pembroke Road, Dublin.
NELSON, BEN, Benburb Moy, Co. Tyrone, Ireland.
RANKIN, A., 96, Berw Road, Pontypridd, Glam.
STRAUSS, F., 45, Grasmere Road, Muswell Hill, N.

20 PRIZE WINNERS of 10s. EACH.

AUSTIN, J. J., 44, Haslemere Road, Seven Kings.
ABBITT, E. G., 70, Third Avenue, Queen's Park Estate, W.
BENNETT, W., Ryecroft House, Mardy Street, Cardiff.
BRUCE, J. C., 35, Iona Street, Leith, N.B.
CHANT, H. E., 101, Finsbury Pavement, E.C.
COOPER, J. M., The Oriel House, Leigh-on-Sea.
DELLER, G. F., 48, Frogmore, Wandsworth, S.W.
DUDLEY, E., 37, Deansgate, Bolton, Lancs.
FARRALL, F., 10, Wilson Street, St. Paul's, Bristol.
HOWARTH, R. J., 9, Shaw Street, Bradford, Manchester.
JORDAN, J. R., 28, Lansdowne Hill, West Norwood, S.E.
LANGTON, J. A., 3, Lower Grosvenor Place, S.W.
MILLER, Mrs. A., 101, Wolfington Road, West Norwood, S.E.
MUNRO, J., c.o. United Wire Works, Heads Place, Leith Walk, Edinburgh.
NISBET, Miss E. M., Whitegates, Pyrford, Surrey.
PARKER, R., 4, Ransons Buildings, Winlaton, Co. Durham.
REECE, R., 48, Paget Road, Plumstead.
SCOTT, A. H., 45, Headland Park, Plymouth.
STEVENSON, Miss A., Woodlands, Lisburn, Ireland.
WILLIAMS, C., 7, Muncaster Road, Clapham, Common, S.W.

T OF 200 PRIZE WINNERS OF 7s. 6d. EACH. "BULLETS" COMPETITION NO. 26.

Selection from the List of 5,000 winners of valuable Prizes can be seen in "Mary Bull," dated April 26th.

nley, A., Bar Canteen, Eastley racks, Portsmouth.
s, G., 25, Cecil-rd., Waltham Cross.
nder, M., 76, Dudley-road, Whalley nge, Manchester.
er, J. T., 74, Harcourt-st., Newark-Trent.
rson, Mrs. C. B., 58, Harwood-rd., ham, S.W.
d, D., 20, Stanley-rd., Wimbledon.
rton, J., 10, Westminster-st., New-n, Wigan.
terlonie, D., 9, Elliot-st., Dunferm-, N.B.
, J. E., 64, Gordon-av., St. Mar-ts, Twickenham.
er, A. E., Pleasant View, Linth-te, Huddersfield.
itt, J., Izard Villa, Carlton-av., ttlewell.
ey, G. W., 9, Kingswell Villas, thbury-rd., Ponders End.
p, Mrs. S., 63, Spencer-rd., Heeley, field.
, G. S. S., 5, Alcester-rd., Wallington.
, H. G., The Old Post Office, Totton.
ey, Miss K. M., 7, Grove-rd., Norwich.
hwaite, V., 89, High-st., Wallsend-Tyne.
well, J. N., Roby-rd., Roby, L'pool.
, Mrs. A. P., Balmoral Hotel, Hulse-Southampton.
n, Dorothy, 25, Hartley-st., Levens-me, Manchester.
e, Miss J., Garden Tea Rooms, Dun-l, N.B.
, H. R., Adelaide House, Rotting-n.
an, J., 18, Quarry-st., Leeds.
H. J. A., 15, King-rd., Knowle, stol.

rt, C. E. H., 87, Market-st., Chorley.
bell, Flora, c/o W. Hardwick, North-tern Arcade, Birmingham.
r, Mrs. F., 17, Terminus-rd., East-rne.
nion, L., Royal Scots Greys, Cavalry racks, York.
ton, T. T., Registrar of Births and ths, Sutton-in-Ashfield.
ton, D. J., 1, Cutcombe-rd., Denmark , S.E.
son, W., 138, Lavenham-rd., South-s, S.W.

Clark, H., 146, Buccleuch-st., Glasgow.
Claydon, S., 2, Michael's Cottages, Shoeburyness.
Cole, J. J., 6, Burton-st., Lowestoft.
Crosby, S., 29, Norton-rd., Kingsthorpe, Northampton.
Cousins, F. G., 1, Greenway-av., Taunton.
Cowles, A. W., 290, Shobnall-st., Burton-on-Trent.
Cunningham, J., 1, Churchyard-row, Newington Butts, S.E.
Cusworth, C., 231, Park-rd., Aston, B'ham.
Cutting, C., 105, Fore-st., Ipswich.
Dale, H. H., 68, Hendon-rd., Sunderland.
Davies, T. R., Stubbington House, Fareham.
Deans, F., 21, Berbice-rd., Mossley Hill, Liverpool.
Dear, A., "Golden Eagle," Trafalgar-rd., S.E.
Denney, G., Costessey Hill, Norwich
Dickson, A. H., Albany House, Galashiels.
Dillon, B. C., 5, Compton-ter., Highbury.
Donoghue, Mrs., 25, Edge-st., Notting Hill Gate, W.
Droffin, C., Sergt.-Major, 13, Southey-st., Cardiff.
Durrant, S. F., 12, Byfield-Gardens, Barnes, S.W.
Eastham, B., Folds-rd., Ringley, Stoneclough, nr. Manchester.
Evans, Mrs. C., Aspey Guise, Beds.
Everard, A. T., School House, Chessington, Surbiton.
Ewins, T. W., 72, Harrow-rd., Bournebrook, Birmingham.
Eyre, F. T., 6, Stromnes-rd., Southchurch-rd., Southend-on-Sea.
Farrar, M., Machpelah, Hebden-Bridge.
Fawbert, F. M., 96, Fairmont-rd., Grimsby.
Fellows, W., 71, Church-rd., Woolston.
Ferguson, G., 48, Atherton-st., St. Helens.
Ferrey, C. B., 3, High-st., Christchurch.
Fielden, M., 66, Wellington-st. East, Higher Broughton, Manchester.
Forbes, E. A., Sunnyside, Begelly, S.O.
Fosters, R. E., Grocery Stores, Newark.
Fowler, T. J., 6, Forest-rd., Loughton.
Fox, L., The Cottage, Sara-croft, Binfield.
Fox, L. B., 80, Thorne-rd., Doncaster.
Gandy, S., 1, Gayville-rd., Wandsworth Common, S.W.
Gays, A. H., 8, Meriden-st., Coventry.
Glassey, C. H., 34, Station-rd., Handsworth, Birmingham

Gifford, J., 61, Victoria-rd., Aberavon.
Goldsworthy, Jennie, Clifton House, King-st., Brynmawr.
Gorely, H., Verulam, Sturges-rd., Wokingham.
Green, J. H., 64, Hildyard-st., Grimsby.
Grix, H. A., 34, Friars-st., Ipswich.
Haines, A., 19, Pix-rd., Letchworth.
Hall, G., 164, Nelson-rd., Hornsey, N.
Hall, C. J., 139, Laburnum-grove., Portsmouth.
Hallett, T., Tregenna, Aberbeeg, Mon.
Halliday, H., Bank Crest, Baildon, Bradford.
Hare, C., 57, Sedborough-rd., Seven Kings.
Harper, Miss E., 93, Kingston-rd., B'ham.
Harper, R., 11, High-st., Bideford.
Harris, E., Underground Lavatory, Covent Garden (facing Grand-row), W.C.
Harris, Mrs. L., 53, Townsend-rd., Southall.
Hawcock, W., 32, Park-st., Lincoln.
Hawthorn, R. G. Coldharbour Farm, Bushey.
Hayward, C. W., 13, Cornwall-rd., Bexhill-on-Sea.
Heatley, A. M., 354, Heather-rd., Small Heath, Birmingham.
Rencler, H. J., 28, Highfield-rd., Chertsey.
Henry, C., 4, New-rd., Reading.
Hensinger, Mrs. M. L., 26, Hanover-sq., Bradford, Yorks.
Heslop, B. H., 19, Finkle-st., Stockton-on-Tees.
Hield, L., 11, Wiseton-rd., Sheffield.
Hill, Mrs. A., 90, Sandwich House, Sandwich-st., W.C.
Hillier, Mrs. J., Norton Hill, Midsomer Norton, Bath.
Holdsworth, E., 6, Spring Wood-av., Bradford.
Holloway, E., 35c., Queen Victoria-st., E.C.
Holt, C. D., 69, Lloyd-st., Greenheys, M/c.
Home, T., 51, Oxford-gdns., North Kensington, W.
Horsey, F. L., R.N. Barracks, Portsmouth.
Howe, J., 8, Green-rd., Southsea.
Hudson, G., 44a, Church-st., Preston.
Hudson, C., 9, Patmore-st., Battersea.
Hurst, D. J., 11, Solway-st., Workington.
James, W., 14, Pine-st., Ferndale.
Jolley, J., 58, Denmark-rd., Greenheys, Manchester.
Kennedy, Mrs. E., 76, Tiverton-st., Wavertree, Liverpool.

Kerswell, S. H., 199, Chevening-rd., Brondesbury Park, N.W.
Kettle, A., Prallswood, Old Tovil-rd., Maidstone.
Lambourne, F., Medstead, Alton, Hants.
Lamont, Mary, 45, West Holmes-gardens, Musselburgh.
Langley, A., West View, Huyton, L'pool.
Lawes, G., 15, Vigo-rd., Andover.
Lees, F. H., 7, Hall-st., Stockport.
Leonard, Mrs. B., South View, Littleton Panel, Devizes.
Lewis, A., Church-st. Newborough, Anglesea.
Linney, C. H., Esplanade House, York.
Liverton, W., 25, High-st., Margate.
Logan, H. T., 5, Selwood Place, South Kensington, S.W.
Lucas, T., Lance-Corpl., R.E. Office, The Barracks, Cork.
Luxton, H. G., Tivington, Minehead.
Manley, Mrs. E., 216, Kennington Park-rd., S.E.
Manser, C., 12, Skelbrook-st., Earlsfield.
Mansfield, W., 22, Fulham-st., Nelson, Lancs.
Manhere, E., Treswithian, Camborne.
Martin, H., 25, York-rd., Easton, Bristol.
Mayer, Mrs. A., 22, Hugh rd., Small Heath, Birmingham.
McDonald, S. F. H., Curtis-rd., Hornchurch.
McLaughlin, P., 34, Ann-st., Greenock.
McLean, Mrs. J. E., 889, Coventry-rd., Small Heath, Birmingham.
Morrison, R. E. C., 3, Greenhill-av., Tenby.
Moseley, P. R., 15, Mayland-ter., Ilkley.
Mould, W. H., 7, Merryn-rd., Bishopston, Bristol.
Mulchinock, C. E., 44, Tivoli-cres., Brighton.
A. ., 65, Chesterford-rd., Manor Park, E.
Newman, W., 7, Madison-av., Antrim-rd., Belfast.
Norbury, Mrs., 10, Lucan-rd., Aigburth, Liverpool.
Oates, J., 18-20, Sunbridge-rd., Bradford.
Owen, A. E., Daisy Cottage, Essington, Wolverhampton.
Page, H. S., Bank House, Sheringham.
Palmer, T. W., 6, Charlmont-rd., Longley-rd., S.W.
Parke, W., 39, Browhill-rd., Catford, S E
Penson, E. A., 46, Winterbourne-rd., Thornton Heath.
Potter, Mrs. L., 254, Sheffield rd., Tinsley, Sheffield.
Pretty, Mrs. C., Lower-st., Frimley, Ipswich.
Priestley, A., Station-rd., Ossett.
Pulling, H., 48, High-st., Guildford.
Read, C. B., 24, Calais Gate, Camberwell.
Read, E. A., Certified Industrial School, Moortown, Leeds.
Reynish, Beatrice, 21, Hessle-ter., Headingley, Leeds.
Reynolds, J., 7, Elmwood-av., Willington Quay-on-Tyne.
Roadley, T. S., 62, Waldeck Rd., Carrington, Notts.
Russell, S. F., Wyllies, Cuckfield.
Sage, W., 4, College Mews., Westminster.
Sarter G. 44, Balfour-rd., Sth. Norwood.
Sayer, W. T., 28, Grove-rd. Eastbourne.
Sharp, G., 80, East Park-av., Hull.
Sharp, G., Flowerbank, Sanquhar, N.B.
Sheppard, J., 54, The Beach, Southend-on-Sea.
Shrives, W. A., 43, King-st., Maidenhead.
Slocombe, A. E., 6, Gloucester-ter., Swindon.
Smith, G. O., Wharf House, Buckingham.
Smith, Mrs. D. M., 118, Elsenham-st., Southfields, S.W.
Sparkes, Mrs. N. C., Low Croft, Bulkington-av., Worthing.
Spencer, R., Coppice Drive, Harrogate.
Standley, Mrs. L., 10, London-rd., nr. Newmarket.
Stell, Miss, 86, Greenvale-rd., Eltham.
Stephen, S. W. B., Oak House, Cape Hill, Smethwick.
Stessigen, C., 1a, Barrington-rd., Crouch End, N.
Stevens, Jessie E., 32, Chichester-rd., North End, Portsmouth.
Stevenson, W., 3, Chalmers-rd. W., Ayr., N.B.
Stewart, H., 77, Scarborough-st., West Hartlepool.
Stringer, Frances E., 270, North-st., Ashton Gate, Bristol.
Stubbs, E. R., 20, Price-st., Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent.
Sugden, W., 43, Otley-rd., Bradford.
Swann, P. J., 28, Duckett-rd., Harringay.
Tarr, E., 8, Hampstead-rd., Brislington, Bristol.
Thomas, R., 23, Arundel-gdns., Goodmayes.
Tomlinson, A. E., 55, Langsett-rd., Sheffield.
Turner, T. G., 6, Ashlin-grove, Lincoln.
Turner, J., 11, Acris-st., East Hill, Wandsworth, S.W.
Vickers, Dorothy, Belle Vue Farm, Stanhope, Durham.

"BULLETS" RULES (*which must be strictly adhered to*)

1. The First Prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the editor, assisted by a competent staff of adjudicators, is the best Bullet received, and the other prizes in order of merit. The right to divide a prize or prizes among two or more competitors is reserved
2. Bullets must be plainly written on one of the coupons on page 578, and only two attempts may be written on each coupon
3. Both coupons may be used, but each coupon must be accompanied by a postal order for 6d. made payable to JOHN BULL and crossed _____ & Co
Competitors must write their names and addresses, and the date of sending the order on the back of the postal order, the number of which must be duly noted on each coupon submitted. Competitors sending more than one coupon may enclose one postal order for the full amount covering the number of their coupons. Stamps will not be accepted.
4. Coupons must not be cut or defaced in any manner, or have portions of another coupon pasted upon them.
5. Entries must reach us not later than the first post on the morning of Wednesday, April 23rd.
6. The Editor undertakes that every Bullet reaching him shall receive careful consideration by a competent staff; but the Editor will not hold himself responsible for coupons lost or mislaid.
7. No correspondence can be entered into concerning this competition.
8. The Editor's decision on all matters concerning this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects, and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry.

Complete List of 5,000 Winners of Valuable Prizes can be seen at the "John Bull" Offices.

Racing Notes.

Epsom next week, will be a very important meeting. For the Great Metropolitan, run for on Tuesday,

AYE AYE

looks to be the likely winner.

Prophetic.

To-day (Wednesday), at Newmarket, the best thing appears to be

WINTHORPE

for the Babraham Plate. LIGHT BRIGADE ought to take the Column Produce Stakes and DARK QUEEN the Granby Plate. On Thursday,

CHINA COCK

ought to win the Three-Year-Old Handicap, SWING CLEAR the Flying Handicap, and SANQUHAR the Craven Stakes.

At Derby, on Friday,

CUTHBERT

for the Doveridge Handicap must be good if a boy can keep him straight. KLEINFONTEIN will be worth support in the Quarndon Handicap as well as QUEENSLAND in the Drakelow Maiden Plate. On Saturday, CAROL SINGER may take the Chaddesden Plate. ASSAGAI the Chatsworth Stakes and ANGUS the Osmaston Plate.

SPORTING REPLIES.

The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith

JAMES FERGUSON (Birsfelden).—CAUTIOUS (Richmond).—BOWES PARK.—We should not advise you to take tickets in this Sweep.

EDWARD H. LEIGH (Geneva).—PUNTER.—We know nothing of this man.

UNIVERSAL TURF SOCIETY.—FIVE BOB.—As previously stated, we have reason to believe that the Sweep inaugurated by this Society is being conducted in a straightforward manner.

SMALLMAN AND TERRY'S LINCOLN HANDICAP SWEEP.—J. H. (Southampton).—There is no mistake in regard to your ticket, as it is quite usual to have the same numbers in different alphabetical series.

"RACING STUD."—G. B. (Chesterfield).—We understand that these people at one time were owners, but they have since disposed of their horses, and have informed us that they will eliminate the words "race-horse owners" from their advertisements.

W. H. NORMAN & Co (Piccadilly Circus).—REFLEX.—We know nothing about these people.

BOUVERET TURF "CLUB."—VERA (Rotherhithe) AND OTHERS.—We notice that the first prize in the Grand National Sweep is stated to be £4,053—in other words £20,000 less than subscribers were led to expect. "If you see it in JOHN BULL," etc. Several readers inform us that although subscribers they have not received the result of the draw, and they should insist upon a copy being sent to them without delay.

"JOHN BULL" DERBY SWEEP.—DISAPPOINTED.—We think the incident to which you refer must have been a pure coincidence, as there is not the slightest connection between Mr. Patrick O'Brien and the firm you mention.——ZODAK, G. S. M. (Ilfracombe).—Of course, you can take one ticket.——DIRTY DICK.—All you need do is to write to Mr. O'Brien for tickets and then send the counterfoils to him with remittance.——W. F. H. (Stockport), W. E. M. (Tonna).—We are sure the omission to stamp the letters was a clerical oversight.——J. A. M. (Barrow-in-Furness).—Registered letters are safer, but there is no necessity to adopt this course.——H. W. (Wisbech) AND OTHERS.—The difficulty about announcing the result of the Draw in our issue of May 31st is that it would have to be in our hands at least ten days before that date.——J. B. D. S. (Brighton).—There is no reason why you should not send to Mr. O'Brien.——MRS. L. S. (Stoke-on-Trent).—Having disposed of eight tickets, you are entitled to the remaining one as a free bonus.——A. E. S. B. (Newport, Mon.).—The counterfoil should be returned to Mr. Patrick O'Brien, Geneva, Switzerland, is sufficient address.——H. J. W. (Luton).—We have good reason to believe that the prize fund will be substantially increased.——M. D. (Lowestoft).—Although the list does not close till May 28th, we think you would be wise to send your counterfoils to Geneva at once.

LEONARD LANE.—SPECULATOR (Cardiff).—We know nothing of this "turf accountant."

EDWIN JAMES (Binningen).—F. R. (Aberdeenshire).—We have looked into your complaint and understand that, in view of the fact that so many Home Teams won on March 15th, Mr. James' clients had a very easy task to pick seven winners and, consequently, the amount distributed was spread over a large number and was correspondingly small.

TURF POOL SYNDICATE.—F. S. (Winslow).—We have frequently stated that in our opinion this is a genuine concern. We are making enquiries in regard to the other one you mention.

G. RAYMOND (Regent Street, W.)—A. E. T. (Harrogate).—We should not advise.

ATHLETIC PUBLISHING Co. (Copenhagen).—L. B. (Buxton).—We have frequently warned our readers against these people, and we notice that on the 5th inst., two brothers, of the name of Kipling, were convicted at Southend—one receiving three months' hard labour for using a house for the purpose of receiving money for football bets, and that amongst the documents seized was a quantity of literature and coupons relating to competitions under the name of the Athletic Publishing Co., of Copenhagen. It was stated that the latter address was only a post box, and that the letters were sent on from there by Kipling's agent. The police found no less than 613 claims made by apparently dissatisfied competitors.

LEONARD LONG (Chancery Lane).—MAYPOLE.—We know nothing of this firm.

WALTER CHADWICK.—HARD LUCK, P. W. (Linlithgow), E. M. (Eastbourne).—We can only repeat that we have removed this man's advertisements from our columns in consequence of complaints similar to your own which reached us.

LESLIE MURRAY AND Co. (Binningen).—A. T. (Taunton), T. S. (Leigh), L. W. (Llanwrda).—We have made enquiries and are assured by Messrs. Leslie Murray and Co. that you will have received the amounts claimed by you.

We have to repeat that we cannot undertake to adjudicate upon betting disputes except in such cases where such disputes may be referred to us by arrangement between any of our advertisers and their clients.

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Football Selections from the Principal Papers.

Matches to be played Saturday, April 19th, 1913.

In view of the enormous interest now taken in the competitions conducted by numerous papers, the following table of selections compiled from the principal football authorities will be found to be an extremely useful guide—

	Matches played on ground of first-named team.	Last Year's Result.	JOHN BULL	Lalinga's Weekly.	Umpire.	Sunday Chronicle.	Weekly Dispatch.	News of the World.	Competitors' Guide.
	ENGLISH CUP.								
	Aston Villa v. Sunderland	—	Aston Villa	Aston Villa	Aston Villa	Sunderland	Aston Villa	Aston Villa	Aston Villa
SOUTHERN LEAGUE—2nd LEAGUE—1st LEAGUE—	Blackburn Rovers v. Manchester City	Blackburn won 2—0	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Derby County v. Bradford C. ..	No Game	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Liverpool v. Bolton Wanderers ..	Liverpool won 1—0	Home	Draw	Draw	Draw	Draw	Home	Home
	Manchester Un. v. Newcastle Un. ..	Newcastle won 2—0	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home
	Middlesbrough v. Chelsea	No Game	Draw	Home	Away	Home	Home	Home	Draw
	Notts County v. Oldham A.	Draw, 1—1	Home	Away	Away	Draw	Draw	Home	Draw
	Sheffield Wed. v. West Bromwich A.	Sheffield won 4—1	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Tottenham H. v. Woolwich A. ..	Spurs won 5—0	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Barnsley v. Clapton O.	Barnsley won 2—1	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Blackpool v. Huddersfield Town ..	Blackpool won 3—1	Away	—	Draw	Draw	Away	Away	Draw
	Bradford v. Glossop	Draw, 1—1	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Bury v. Notts Forest	No Game	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home
	Fulham v. Lincoln City	No Game	Home	Home	Draw	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Grimsby Town v. Bristol City ..	Grimsby won 3—0	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Away	Home
	Leeds City v. Birmingham	Draw, 0—0	Draw	Away	Draw	Away	Home	Away	Draw
	Leicester Fosse v. Burnley	Leicester Fosse won 3—2	Draw	Away	Away	Away	Away	Away	Away
	Stockport C. v. Preston N. E. ..	No Game	Away	Draw	Away	Away	Away	Away	Away
	Wolverhampton v. Nor. City	Wolverhampton won 6—0	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home	Home
	Queen's Park R. v. Merthyr Town ..	No Game	Home	Home	Home	—	Home	Home	Home
	Brentford v. Watford	Brentford won 2—1	Home	Home	Away	—	Home	Home	Home
	Gillingham v. Plymouth A.	Plymouth won 1—0	Away	Away	Away	—	Away	Away	Draw
	Northampton v. Crystal Palace ..	Draw, 1—1	Draw	Home	Away	—	Draw	Draw	Draw
	Norwich City v. Southampton	Draw, 0—0	Home	Home	Draw	—	Home	Home	Away
	Stoke v. Reading	Draw, 0—0	Away	Draw	Away	—	Draw	Away	Home
	Millwall v. Coventry City	Millwall won 2—1	Home	Home	Home	—	Home	Home	Home
	Swindon v. West Ham Un.	Swindon won 3—1	Home	Home	Home	—	Home	Home	Draw
	Portsmouth v. Exeter City	No Game	Home	Away	Away	—	Home	Home	Draw
	Bristol Rovers v. Brighton and Hove	Draw, 2—2	Home	Home	Draw	—	Home	Draw	Draw

Home signifies first mentioned team to win—Away second mentioned team to win.

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000041	278467	444903	794530	987411
000330	305508	463178	825816	990362
001640	323196	470541	873176	994112
003705	331828	495855	883670	A000762
026152	341082	608539	878583	A001876
055132	361120	640633	912775	A002954
083652	366393	699459	940951	A005286
166857	406624	700739	956039	A007939
189766	426146	750360	974087	A053842
258803	436606	777747	983670	A126751

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